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FORMATION OF 'AMERICANS FOR SALT' GROUP REPORTED

LD210032 Moscow TASS in English 2339 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Washington, January 21, TASS--It was announced here that the organization "Americans for SALT" uniting prominent political and public leaders of the United States, representatives of both the Democratic and the Republican parties, was announced here. The organization's purpose is the speediest conclusion and ratification of the new strategic arms limitation agreements. A statement released by the organization says that the lack of the new agreement on strategic arms limitation will be fraught with increase of tensions in relations between the USA and the USSR and further growth of military spendings. The statement stressed that the arms race that is not restrained by any agreements would disrupt the existing strategic balance, would create a new serious threat for both countries and their allies and for entire mankind.

Co-chairmen of the "Americans for SALT" organization are Charles Yost, a former United States ambassador at the United Nations and Townsend Hoopes, the president of the Association of American Publishers, a former Air Force undersecretary. Among members of the organization are former Defence Secretary Clark Clifford, former U.S. Ambassador at the United Nations Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, brother of President Dwight Eisenhower, former President of the Johns Hopkins University Milton Eisenhower, former Secretary of the Air Force and later promiment Senator Stuart Symington.

The forming of the organization showed again how wide is the support in the USA for steps aimed at curbing the arms race. The public opinion polls show that 75 percent of the Americans are for the speediest conclusion of the strategic arms limitation agreement with the Soviet Union.

U.S. EUROPEAN ALLIES EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR SALT-II AGREEMENT

LD210634 Moscow TASS in English 1328 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Brussels, January 20, TASS--All West European allies of the USA come out for an earliest conclusion of a SALT-2 agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union and for its ratification by U.S. Congress. This opinion was unanimously expressed, as the NOUVEL ATLANTIQUE BULLETIN writes, during last week's consultations at the NATO headquarters on the question of SALT-2.

The supporters of the agreement believe, the NOUVEL ATLANTIQUE points out, that if U.S. Congress rejects a SALT-2 agreement, that will become an indicator of the United States' weakness and will give rise to doubts in the West as to Washington's ability to achieve agreement inside its own country on the basic problem of arms control, and doubts as to its ability to remove tension in East-West relations. Concerning the latest point, the idea is even expressed that U.S. Senate's negative attitude to a SALT-2 agreement will prove a signal to the Europeans that they should seek a formula of their own for detente with the USSR.

USSR, U.S. SALT DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA

LD191616 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, January 19, TASS--The delegations of the USSR and the United States to the Soviet-American negotiations on limitation of strategic offensive armaments have had a meeting here today.

DETENTE, DISARMAMENT BEING DISCUSSED AT BRUSSELS MEETING

LD210018 Moscow TASS in English 2305 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Brussels, January 20, TASS--Questions of the deepening of detente and problems of disarmament are being discussed at a meeting of the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation that opened here on Friday.

Representatives of the public of Belgium, Britain, GDR, France, Italy, Portugal and other countries speaking at the meeting expressed concern over the fact that the process of detente in international relations that was started by the European conference in Helsinki came up against serious obstacles put by those who support the policy of confrontation and the cold war. The speakers strongly condemned intrigues of the reactionary forces, above all of the military-industrial complex of the United States, of NATO military and the Beijing [Peking] leaders teaming up with them. They oppose detente on purpose, continuing the arms race under the cover of the propaganda hullabaloo about "Soviet military threat".

All the falsity of this hypocritical hullabaloo and the danger of the designs of Western leaders was revealed by Italian Senator General N. Pasti, former deputy supreme commander of NATO forces in Europe. He stressed that the "threat from the East" is a myth that was invented by the Pentagon. The USSR and the Warsaw Treaty countries spend far less on armaments than the United States and NATO countries, Pasti said. It is necessary to prevent the growth of the military budgets, to stop the arms race, including that of neutron and thermo-nuclear weapons.

The participants in the session came out in favour of the utmost efforts of the public to put an end to the arms race, to achieve real progress at the talks on disarmament and military detente held in Vienna and Geneva.

Representative of the French Committee for European Security Professor Astre suggested that a broad international forum of public forces on disarmament be held at the end of 1979.

Soviet Delegate Cited

LD201136 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Brussels, January 20, TASS--Questions pertaining to deepening the process of detente as well as disarmament issues are under discussion at the session of the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation, which opened on Friday here. 17 international and national organizations and delegations of 23 countries, are taking part in its work.

Addressing the session, representatives of Czechoslovakia, Denmark, the Netherlands, the FRG, Bulgaria and Romania stressed that political detente must be accompanied with that in the military field and not only in Europe, but the world over.

Head of the Soviet delegation, representative of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation Vitaliy Shaposhnikov stressed that prospects for deepening European detente depend at present in a decisive measure on an effective lowering of the levels of military confrontation in the continent. This is the focal problem. On whose settlement the future of Europe depends, as a matter of fact.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNTABLE'

LD211830 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program presented by Yevgeniy Kachanov, commentator of the All-Union Radio, with Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the NOVOYE VREMYA Editorial Board, and Aleksandr Nikolayevich Druzhinin, Soviet radio and television political observer]

[Text] [Kachanov] Hello, comrades. Last week was, as you know, exceptionally rich in events that will undoubtedly greatly influence the subsequent course of international life. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, ended his visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria, which is generally acknowledged as having been a striking manifestation of the unbreakable friendship between the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples. The visit, the Bulgarian paper RABOTNICHESKO DELO noted, can truly be assessed as an important contribution to the consolidation of the cause of peace and socialism.

The meetings and talks held in Moscow between the Soviet leaders and Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, Spanish foreign minister, served to strengthen peace, detente and cooperation on the European Continent.

It is also necessary to single out the events in Iran connected with the shah's departure from the country. With full justification it may be said that this is a kind of turning point in the centuries-old history of Iran, whose people have decided to throw off the hated feudal police yoke and take the road of democracy and progress.

The latest events in Kampuchea are eliciting great interest on the part of the international public. The process of returning to normal life after almost 4 years of the Maoist nightmare is continuing. International recognition is spreading for the People's Republic of Kampuchea, whose government stated its willingness to maintain friendly relations with all the countries of the world, and primarily neighboring states in Southeast Asia, based on the principle of respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, noninterference in each others' internal affairs, equal rights and mutual benefit. With the elimination of the antipeople Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime, a dangerous source of tension in Asia has been removed. I shall recall that from the moment of seizing power in Kampuchea in 1975, this regime, on Beijing's [Peking] orders, constantly organized armed provocations on the borders of Socialist Vietnam, Laos and Thailand. Now, however, all the conditions have been created for peace and stability in this region.

A very important event this week was the publication in the Soviet Union and abroad of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's interview with TIME, a U.S. magazine. Duncan, the assistant managing editor of TIME, said that this interview undoubtedly has great international significance. He said that the Soviet leader touched on the most burning problems of contemporary international relations, on the positive solutions which will insure peace on earth and the peaceful future of Soviet-U.S. relations. He particularly stressed the need to develop cooperation between both countries in the interests of averting nuclear war. The Soviet leader left no doubt during the conversation that he wants peace and peaceful development for the whole of mankind. Overall, foreign observers assess Comrade Brezhnev's TIME interview as an impassioned call for peace, detente and disarmament.

SALT Talks

[Druzhinin] Indeed, the interest shown abroad in Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's interview with TIME magazine is extraordinarily great and this is understandable because Leonid Ilich Brezhnev is raising the most important and most disturbing problems for mankind concerning modern international life, such as the preservation and deepening of detente, the development of Soviet-U.S. cooperation and the strengthening of security in Europe. It is understandable that a favorable development of the international situation depends to a considerable degree on solving these problems successfully. By the same token, failure in this matter could turn into increased tension and the intensified threat of military conflict.

In fact, let us turn to the Soviet-U.S. SALT talks. No little mention is being made of them at present in the U.S. press. Leading U.S. political figures frequently come out with optimistic forecasts, predicting the early completion of the talks and the signing of a SALT-II agreement. It is correct, or course, that the work on a new agreement is nearing completion, although it is obvious that some more time will be needed for the definitive coordination of the participants' positions. If the principle of equality and equal security, which the Soviet Union and the United States recognize as the point of departure, prompts the correct decision by the U.S. side, the SALT-II agreement will become a reality. An important contribution will thereby be made to solving the task which is posed by life itself: To insure the security of our states and strengthen international peace at a lower level of military confrontation.

Nevertheless, when appraising the prospects of the Soviet-U.S. SALT-II agreement, we must constantly recall the political situation in the United States. We must remember how strong the circles against Soviet-U.S. cooperation, including, of course, the limitation of strategic weapons, are in this country.

It is, after all, a fact that some American politicians and, particularly, top military spokesman still see the Soviet Union as an enemy and not a partner in peaceful cooperation. That concept, if the term is applicable, understandably creates very favorable conditions for inflating the anti-Soviet psychosis in America; it creates an atmosphere which is very favorable for certain U.S. military-political circles to create an uproar over what they call the Soviet military threat. Indeed, talk of Moscow increasing its military superiority over the United States, of the Soviet Union's aggressive intentions toward the West and of the Soviet danger have long been the favorite topic of some congressmen and senators, of prominent Pentagon figures and of many American observers. One cannot fail to see that this myth of the Soviet threat, the myth of Soviet interference, crops up almost every time that a hotbed of tension arises somewhere in the world. This is sometimes said even by American observers who are far from sympathetic to the Soviet Union.

'Soviet Threat'

[Volskiy] Yes, but it is not just when some hotbed of tension arises that the myth is reborn but in other circumstances too--for instance, when the U.S. Congress is about to start reviewing the next military budget. The New York TIMES has written that in such cases the fable of a Soviet threat blossoms like flowers in spring: I would call them poisonous flowers. As it happens, the new congress has now started work in Washington--and it is now that the uproar over what is called the Soviet threat has again grown noticeably stronger. After all, the Congress is to discuss, among other problems, the military budget, and this time it is again expressed in record figures: The U.S. military spending for 1980 will amount to almost $136 billion.

[Druzhinin] It is curious that American observers themselves, who are far from sympathetic to the Soviet Union, sometimes say that all that fuss about the so-called Soviet threat is rubbish. Interviewing Senator Baker recently, a correspondent for the Hearst newspapers, John (Waller), asked bluntly: Do we Americans not resort to oversimplifications when we put the blame for literally everything on the Russians? Do we not indulge in oversimplifications when we try to paint an extensive picture of Soviet responsibility for everything in the world which turns out to the United States' disadvantage? And meanwhile--and this is flagrantly obvious--those who disseminate fabrications about a Soviet threat do not present a single argument of any degree of conviction which might confirm that the Soviet Union does indeed nurture some aggressive intentions toward the United States and its partners or other states in the world. Is it not the Soviet Union which is one of the main initiators and active participants of all actions to strengthen peace and the development of peaceful cooperation?

Well, of course, our country intends to attack no one, and in his TIME magazine interview, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev emphasized this fact again. We, he said, do not seek a military superiority over the West. We do not need it; we need only reliable security. So what aim, the question arises, is served by the uproar over the illusory Soviet threat? The answer is clear: Behind its screen, the opponents of detente and international cooperation find it easier to push their plans to continue the unrestrained arms race. As you have already said here, Dmitriy Antonovich, extensive use is made of the concoctions about a Soviet threat to justify the continuous rise in military spending in the Western countries, especially the United States. Under the trumped-up pretext that the United States is lagging behind the Soviet Union, the Pentagon is trying to push through plans for developing more and more types of modern arms, including that most barbaric and anti-humane weapon of mass destruction, the neutron bomb.

All of this clearly shows that the arms race whipped up by the NATO countries is by no means caused by defensive considerations against some Soviet threat, as is loudly proclaimed in the West. That arms race serves the purposes of the NATO countries' policy directed against the socialist countries, a policy which--no matter what Western propagandists may claim--is aimed at undermining detente and peaceful cooperation, and at blocking the positive processes now developing on the world arena.

PRC-U.S. Relations

[Kachanov] Aleksandr Nikolayevich, I would like to draw attention to another part of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's TIME magazine interview: That part which discusses PRC policy and the current Beijing leadership's policy, and the attempts by certain Western circles to play this Chinese card.

[Druzhinin] Yes, in his answers to TIME magazine, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev gave special emphasis to the peril of the West's policy toward Beijing. He pointed out that the trouble is not at all in the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the PRC; the trouble is that attempts are made to give every encouragement and incite with economic inducements--and now gradually, with supplies of modern arms, military hardware and technology too--to those who have openly proclaimed their hostility to the cause of detente, disarmament and world stability, those who declare war to be inevitable and have launched active preparations for war.

We now have many examples of how the West is flirting with the Beijing leadership. Beijing has been offered both nuclear technology and, as Britain is now doing for instance, the latest vertical takeoff and landing fighters. In the West, especially in the United States, there is an atmosphere of, to put it bluntly, a kind of Chinese euphoria.

Washington political circles, forgetful of the United States' angry condemnations of the Beijing regime as an aggressor in Asia which were heard from Washington not so long ago and forgetful of the Chinese authorities' crude violations of elementary human rights, now claim that the era of cooperation with China has come. The business world is licking its lips over future trade profits with the PRC, including arms trade. At the same time, some Western politicians are not adverse to playing what's called the Chinese card in a political game directed against the socialist countries. Some people in the United States and the other Western powers are so enamoured of the current Chinese leadership's course of hostility to the Soviet Union that the temptation has arisen to turn Beijing into an instrument of pressure against the socialist world, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev pointed out. An instance of this short-sighted, adventuristic policy is, among others, the support the Western powers are essentially giving Peking in its shameless anti-Vietnamese campaign. Here, of course, one cannot overlook the stance which the Western powers struck in the UN Security Council when, last week, it gathered to discuss the Chinese slander against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

UN Council on Cambodia

[Kachanov] Yes, indeed, last week the UN Security Council ended its session held over this provocative trumped-up case. This slander was allegedly sent by the former bosses of the Kampuchean regime, which the people have overthrown--but it's no secret to anyone that Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and other ex-Kampuchean leaders are backed by none other than Beijing. The very fact of the council's meeting indicates that the Western countries' position is illogical; they simply followed Beijing's lead. After all, the overthrown Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime from which the so-called appeal came has not the slightest right to speak on behalf of the Kampuchean people.

I will say immediately that the session of the UN Security Council finished without any results. A draft resolution, which was presented by a number of nonpermanent members of the council, was put to the vote but the Soviet Union opposed this draft. The resolution was not adopted. The Chinese draft containing base and slanderous attacks on the Soviet Union, Socialist Vietnam and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea was not even put to the vote. The Soviet representative, Troyanovskiy, stated that the aim of the organizers of this discussion consisted of an attempt to conceal the crimes of the Pol Pot regime and to save it from inevitable collapse. When it became clear that the regime had collapsed and the Kampuchean people had taken their fate into their own hands, it was necessary to invite the real representatives of the Kampuchean people to the UN Security Council session. I have in mind the representatives of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea. This was not done. Beijing, however, sent to New York, to support its slander, the former head of the Cambodian state, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who has been under arrest in Phnom Penh for the last 3 years. In New York he was constantly surrounded by the Chinese and it was clear that his speeches had been dictated by Chinese experts. The impression is that Sihanouk, in coming out with the slanderous statements about the so-called Vietnamese aggression, was simply trying to buy freedom for himself and his family. His children are now being held by Peking as hostages. One must say that Sihanouk has no reason to love the regime that has been overthrown. He himself was held for 3 years under lock and key, deprived even of elementary medical service. One of his sons was killed by Pol Pot's secret servicemen. Three children are missing. The regime has sent them off to remote rural cooperatives and their fate is unknown. When the former head of state defends the bloody clique of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, then he is clearly insincere in doing it: It is someone else's voice that is speaking.

[Volskiy] Well, I would like to draw attention to one more detail connected with the discussion of the Security Council: I have in mind the position of Yugoslavia, whose representative virtually expressed solidarity with the bloody regime of Pol Pot and attempted to defend it. In April, I remember, there appeared in POLITIKA, a Belgrade daily newspaper, a series of articles by its correspondent Dragoslav Rancic. He was the first foreign journalist to succeed in visiting Kampuchea under the Pol Pot regime. Rancic's articles told a very truthful tale of devastation, hunger, and of the truly unprecedented terror which had gripped the country during Pol Pot's regime, which Beijing had transformed into a type of experimental area for cultural revolutions in someone else's territory. It is natural that the Yugoslav representative to the United Nations could not help but know about the articles that were printed in the Yugoslav newspaper. But then his defense of the overthrown regime in Kampuchea looks even more strange.

[Kachanov] Many in the West undoubtedly knew about the events in Kampuchea. I recall that U.S. President Jimmy Carter in official statements called the Pol Pot regime the greatest violator of human rights in the world. Numerous governmental organs and non-governmental organizations in Canada, Australia and West Europe and other capitalist countries frequently protested the policies of Pol Pot and his entourage, who had transformed once-prospering Kampuchea into the most real concentration camp before which even Hitler's dungeons pale.

[Druzhinin] And they not only knew: We can recall that the Western press wrote a great deal about how there was no more repressive regime in the world than the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime. Such statements and such articles were found in the U.S. and British press and the press of many other Western countries. In this, the entire hypocrisy of the present policies of the Western powers is apparent. Quite recently, they were condemning the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime and now they are supporting it.

[Volskiy] I would even say that they were not simply condemning it, they were writing about it in the blackest ways, which were, generally speaking, correct and at that time reflected reality. But when it became a question of specific political actions, they defended the regime and thereby demonstrated their complete indifference to the fates of the Kampuchean people. They were quite indifferent to the fate of ordinary Kampucheans. The only important factors were their own sort of political tricks and political calculations connected with the attempts to defend the Pol Pot regime, which now, of course, will never return to Kampuchean soil.

[Druzhinin] Well, the policies of the present Beijing regime, which supports the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, and the policies of the Western powers....

[Volskiy] Are coming together again.

[Druzhinin] Are coming together, objectively coming together again.

[Kachanov] Putting it another way, it is possible to say that the position taken by the representatives of the Western powers in the Security Council is nothing more than an attempt to play the Kampuchean card, to play it in order to put pressure on Socialist Vietnam. All of these fabrications of the Western and Peking press on the so-called Vietnamese interference in Indochina are pursuing one aim--to distract attention from the positive changes in this part of the world. As a result of the victory of the Kampuchean people, genuinely real conditions have been formed there for the establishment of genuine neighborly relations between all the countries of the region. This is clearly not to the liking of Beijing or some people in the West.

Iranian Situation

[Kachanov] There are attempts now to revive the hackneyed thesis of the Soviet threat in connection with the events in Iran.

[Volskiy] This is quite true. And, of course, these attempts to drag this up are not accidental but are needed to conceal the imperialist forces' own interference, or at any rate the plans for such interference, in Iranian affairs and in the affairs of the entire Middle (srednIy) and Near (blishniy) East. Everyone knows that this has been dictated above all by the interests of the Western monopolies in the oil which comes from this region, and, of course, by the strategic calculations, which are of a most imperialist nature.

Concerning the situation in Iran at the moment, comrades, we find ourselves in quite a difficult situation in that the situation there is changing, I think, literally every hour. Well, certain observers are now writing about a dual power, and that such an original situation has formed in which there exists, as it were, two apparatuses which are controlling, or attempting to control, the position of things. On one hand we have the opposition forces, which are forming their organs of power, their system of control over order in the country, which are being formed gradually, and on the other hand we have the government which is already unable to carry out the duties incumbent upon it. And it is difficult to forecast what will happen. Undoubtedly, various factors will have an influence and there is also the fact that the Iranian people, who already have experienced a taste of freedom and have shown an aspiration to take their future into their own hands, are not like the genie which, as they say in the East, can be put back in the bottle--although, of course, such attempts are now being actively made in the West and primarily in the United States.

The United States is formulating a whole system of new mutual relations with the states of that region, taking into consideration the present Iranian crisis. But here is what is striking in all these plans and designs; they are very much divorced from life and betray the desires of the imperialist circles of the United States rather than their understanding of the essence of the events which are taking place. They want one thing: They want to defend their interests there. But how to do that? They hardly know at present because the events in Iran have undermined that global strategy which the U.S. based to a considerable extent on the shah's regime. Is that no so, Aleksandr Nikolayevich?

[Druzhinin] Yes, undoubtedly that is so because Iran always occupied a prominent place not only in American economic, so to speak, global considerations, but also in strategic ones. And the American press now openly writes that Iran is a bridgehead at the junction of Asia, Africa and the Near East, that it is a key point, so to speak, the key to the Indian Ocean. You, of course, are quite right in saying that the United States always placed a very great stake on Iran.

[Volskiy] You remember all those plans to set up blocs in the Persian Gulf--Iran had to play a key part in them; or, for example, Iranian troops' participation in suppressing uprisings in the Sultanate of Oman against the reactionary regime? That same Iran was already participating in a practical way in this imperialist arrangement. Or, for example, another thing--the CENTO bloc, which has been in existence for almost a quarter of a century and in which Iran, again, always played a key role; and in recent years noticeable attempts have been made to activate this military political alliance, to breathe new life into it, and to turn it into one of those important elements of imperialist strategy in the entire Near East and, moreover, in the areas of the Indian Ocean, and so on.

These plans, of course, will be considerably more difficult to implement. Nevertheless, in the Western imperialist headquarters, in NATO, primarily, and in other organizations which are engaged in formulating policy and its long-term planning, the topic of Iran is always on the agenda. However, it is still regarded from the same point of view of selfish interests, without any consideration for the aspirations and strivings of the Iranian people themselves.

The facts now testify, comrades, that the Iranian people have rejected not only the West's military-political guardianship but they are in fact rejecting economic guardianship. They are rejecting that system of development, that model, as they now say in the West, which foreign circles foisted upon them. That is, the Iranian people are rejecting the neocolonialist version of capitalism; and in the developing countries, as experience shows, there can be no other kind of capitalism. The only capitalism there can be in the developing countries is one which is based on the subjugation of those countries to supranational corporations and on their being drawn into the system of the neocolonial plundering of the developing countries. The Iranian crisis shows that this system has proved to be ineffective, moreover, it has given rise ultimately--the attempts to plant this system by the shah's regime and the Western circles which were behind him--to this tumultuous crisis which Iran is experiencing at present.

Of course, plans are now being formulated to save imperialism's positions, regardless of how the events in Iran develop. In particular, American diplomacy is clearly striving to force through the conclusion of the Israeli-Egyptian deal on the basis of the agreement concluded at Camp David.

However, I think that this will not be an effective means, regardless of how and when the specific Egyptian-Israeli treaty is concluded. Why can it not be an effective means? Because Egypt itself is experiencing times which are by no means the very best in its history. When As-Sadat, with such ceremonial attention, met the shah who had left his own country, then, of course, this reflected his own anxiety for the further internal political development of Egypt. It is no coincidence that even the Egyptian AL-AKHBAR wrote a few days ago that events could occur in Egypt which would remind us of what we are now seeing in Iran--warning its own government. Therefore, to rely on an Egyptian-Israeli alliance, formed by American diplomacy as some kind of alternative to Iran or as a means of protecting the U.S. positions in that region, I think that this is not a very effective, to put it mildly, means.

[Kachanov] There the international observers of the roundtable broadcast ends. Thank you for listening. Good day.

ZORIN DISCUSSES U.S. 'DOUBIE STANDARD' IN FOREIGN POLICY

LD210240 Msocow in English to North America 2300 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] While on a visit to Los Angeles a few weeks ago I got to talking to a university teacher who had shortly before visited the Soviet Union as a tourist. When he learned I was a Soviet journalist he offered to show me the sights of Los Angeles saying he'd been treated wonderfully in the Soviet Union, had had a taste of the famous Russian hospitality and would like to repay it. I spent a most interesting day with my new acquaintance: Besides sightseeing we had long discussions. The teacher said there was much he liked in the Soviet Union, but one thing disturbed him, the fact that most Soviet people expressed distrust bothered him. He suggested Soviet journalists might be to blame: They might be misinforming the public.

I think I made it clear to my acquaintance that this is not true: The media in the Soviet Union do not misinform the public and I offered many facts to show this. At the moment there isn't the time to reproduce for you all the arguments I used but let me give you one.

First of all, I concede that many of my countrymen and people in other countries too by the way do have doubts about the sincerity of what the administration in Washington says to justify its foreign policy. The doubts arise not from misinformation but from the actions of American politicians. Anyone can see the double standard Washington follows, say on the matter of human rights. In the past 2 years administration officials have talked consistently about their dedication to human rights. But for very practical political reasons they forget about human rights in their dealings with China. Any number of top level American delegations have visited China and among the members are men who've pledged unswerving allegiance to human rights. But once in Beijing [Peking] they forget this pledge and returning home they make no mention of the fact that their hosts in Beijing have violated the most elementary human rights.

Senator Henry Jackson is looked upon as one of the most zealous human rights champions, but this didn't prevent him from giving it to be understood recently that he would have nothing against removing the discriminatory clauses in the trade act he helped to formulate provided the removal affected China but not the Soviet Union. Yet Senator Jackson must know that millions of Chinese have been the victims of illegal reprisals, and many reports from China show that the maltreatment of dissidents continues. The most elementary human rights continue to be violated on a mass scale.

Secretary of State Vance was asked at a recent news conference whether the American leaders would discuss the issue of human rights with Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping] when the Chinese leader visits Washington later this month. Mr Vance answered evasively, but the fact the question was asked shows what the American public is thinking.

On the matter of human rights Washington follows a double standard with respect to other countries, too, not only China, [word indistinct] South Korea, Chile, Nicaragua, South Africa. Is it any wonder people round the world are rather skeptical about the principles of foreign policy that Washington solemnly proclaims? Just consider the events in Iran. Who will say that the regime of the shah has been a model of observance of human rights? Yet Washington has been doing everything possible to save a regime which the people of Iran clearly object to. Some officials in Washington have tried to mislead the American public with talk about Soviet interference in the internal affairs of Iran but even the most biased sections of the American news media are unalbe to provide any proof of such interference.

The United States in contrast is indeed interfering despite the administration's assurances that it does not meddle in the affairs of other nations. State Secretary Vance has admitted that Washington keeps contact with the Iranian military through the American group in charge of military aid, which is stationed in Tehran, and through General Huyser, who is in the Iranian capital on a special mission. The mission, according to Mr Vance, includes the organization of military support for the prime minister appointed by the shah. The state secretary denied that all this amounted to interfering in the domestic affairs of Iran, but few will agree with him. What if a foreign general were to appear in Washington and enter into talks with American generals concerning the President? Wouldn't you consider this impermissible meddling in the affairs of your country? I'm sure you would. Then the same actions of the American general in Tehran are also interference, especially since there is evidence of even more serious interference by the United States.

Administration officials give the excuse the United States is much interested in what happens In Iran. Well, can the Soviet Union be any less interested if it has a common frontier with Iran instead of being situated thousands of miles away as the United States is? But no Soviet official concludes from this that there are grounds for interfering in Iran's internal affairs. Despite the great concern of the Soviet public over the Iranian crisis, the Soviet Government stands by its foreign policy of no interference. It believes the people of Iran must find their own way out of the crisis.

Some time ago there was talk in Washington that Radio Moscow in its broadcasts to Iran was trying to influence political events. I can say with full responsibility for my words that nothing in the broadcasts to Iran can be construed as interference or instigation. If the Voice of America in its Russian-language broadcasts were as careful about what it says we would have no grounds for accusing it of interfering in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union. Unfortunately, many of its Russian-language programs amount to the most insulting meddling in Soviet affairs. In this area, too, Washington follows a double standard: It does just what it insists other governments must not do. So again I say: Is it any wonder people around the world have serious doubts about Washington's dedication to lofty principles. Any government that treats principles so lightly for the sake of advantages of the moment is certain to give its country a bad name. The decline of America's prestige in the world can only be attributed to the actions of those groups in Washington that put their own interests before principles.

Hungarian Television Interviews Zorin

LD220650 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1800 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

["The Week" program interview with Soviet television commentator Valentin Zorin; interviewer unidentified: Questions and answers in Russian with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Text] [Question] American journalists are expecting Brezhnev to be Washington's guest in February to sign the new SALT agreement with President Carter. Does the Soviet observer share these expectations?

[Answer] I would not specify the day, the week or the month: this depends on a whole range of circumstances. It seems indisputable to me that such an agreement will be signed at the beginning of the year, since this is of interest not only to the Soviet Union and the socialist countries but also to the United States, despite the fact that certain circles there are currently attempting to obstruct the signing of the agreement or to (?impose) some sort of conditions on the Soviet Union. But there are objective things, objective realities, and these make the signing of an agreement like this extremely important for the U.S. leaders. This is why I presume that this agreement will be successfully signed at the beginning of this year, although I would not specify the exact date.

[Question] I ought to point out that the Hungarian public will only believe in the signing of the agreement when it sees it on the TV screen, because in past years we have often believed that the treaty was in our hands.

[Answer] I hope you won't be angry with me if I begin my answer to this question with an oriental legend. It has been said in the East that once upon a time four blind men were walking along the road. They met an elephant and decided to find out exactly what it was. One of them felt its trunk and said that the elephant was like a thick rope. The second felt its leg and said it was like a telephone pole. The third felt its stomach and said it was like an enormous drum. The fourth took hold of its tail and said it was like a large snake. Each of them was right in his own way but none of them perceived the whole. Nobody understood the thing taken in its entirety. It seems that when they discuss this question a number of commentators are like these blind men. They see the details but they don't see the overall aspects. This is, of course, a complex problem with very many sides to it. As I have already mentioned, it is objectively necessary that an agreement like this, which everyone needs including the Americans, should be signed. Regardless of what certain blind men may say who see only particular parts of the problem, the continuation of the present arms race is beyond the means of the United States, also.

[Question] So in your opinion the U.S. Senate will ratify the new agreement?

[Answer] I want to conclude by saying that there are great difficulties in the U.S. Senate. I was in Washington not long ago and I cannot say that the treaty would go through easily today. Ultimately, even the opponents of the agreement will be forced to consider the fact that, for instance, the election campaign has begun in America and the preparations for the elections have begun. The results of public opinion polls show that 75 percent of the American electorate supports the signing of a SALT agreement and they will be forced to take this into account.

[Question] In their interviews with [word indistinct] President Carter and Secretary of State Vance stated that they were concerned about the hardening of an anti-Soviet mood in influential U.S. circles. How do you explain this phenomenon, and do you think a successful SALT agreement can alter this tendency?

[Answer] Two answers to one question: To begin with, not everything here is as simple as it seems at first glance. On the one hand, there really is resistance in the Congress. But this resistance is (?limited) by the objective realities and also the mood of the voters. On the other hand, I must sincerely say that it's my impression that news of difficulties in Congress is one of Washington's ways of exerting pressure on the Soviet Union. They are constantly trying to scare us with this congressional resistance to make us make some concession to them. I don't want to exaggerate this, but the fact that this element is a factor here is indisputable in my opinion.

[Question] The events in Cambodia are unquestionably a serious political defeat for Beijing [Peking]. In order to counterbalance this defeat, Chinese foreign policy at the United Nations and elsewhere is trying to establish a political front against Vietnam and, of course, the Soviet Union. I am thinking of the events that have taken place in the UN Security Council. All this gives still greater importance to the question of to what extent these Chinese intentions and the game played by the Western powers with the so-called China card can hinder the development of Soviet-U.S. relations.

[Answer] There are certainly attempts at playing the China card and not only in connection with Cambodia. They clearly want to play this card because the Americans, on the one hand, are expressing their indignation at the cruelties of the Pol Pot clique, while on the other, they identify this same clique's cruelties with communism, although there is as much in common between Pol Pot's type of communism and real communism as there is between real socialism and Hitler's national socialism. Pol Pot's actions have nothing to do with communism. They became indignant at these bestial cruelties, but to all intents and purposes they took Pol Pot under their protection when the Security Council discussed Pol Pot's case.

But the Americans are also playing the China card in another direction. This is reflected in Soviet-U.S. relations. I will quote another oriental saying that the brave man who throws stones at all the dogs who bark at him never hits his mark. I think we must calmly note this: We don't need to pay attention to all the dogs that bark. But attempts to pressure with the China card are a negative feature in Soviet-U.S. relations. It must be taken into account that the China card has a negative impact on Soviet-U.S. development, but it must also be taken into account that not only is Washington playing the China card but China is playing the American card. Now, when they are giving arms to China, they think these will be turned against the Soviet Union. However, the events in Southeast Asia and China's policy towards Vietnam, India and other countries mean that the Chinese are contemplating quite different plans. The affair is beginning to be like Munich. At that time, the Western powers acquiesced at Munich in order to turn Hitler against the East. How that all ended is common knowledge. Now, as they turn China against the Soviet Union, the great Western powers are presenting serious problems for themselves. In Peking they are planning to play the American card in the interests of their own aims.

[Question] So this means that you are skeptical when the Americans state that they are striving for balanced relations with both the Soviet Union and China?

[Answer] Sober politicians in America are paying attention to the fact that U.S.-Chinese relations cannot be at the expense of Soviet-U.S. relations, because this is not in the interests of the United States. I think these sober assessments will have an increasingly large influence on Washington's policy as time passes because this corresponds to the real political interests of the United States. This is why we are not allowing ourselves to be pressured. In the Soviet Union people think soberly, and we make a very calm and objective assessment of the current situation.

Zorin on SALT-II, Cambodia

LD202229 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Gabor Bankuti interview with Soviet commentator Valentin Zorin; answers in Russian fading to Hungarian translation--recorded]

[Text] [Question] So the SALT-II treaty is to be signed soon. This is nothing new, since such statements have been made in Washington and Moscow. I have found your arguments and your analysis of the situation interesting.

[Answer] I met Nixon 2 months ago in his San Clemente home. I am writing a book on the history of U.S. domestic policy in the 1970's and found our conversation interesting not only as a journalist but also as a historian. When I asked him what had made him turn towards detente, he quoted Bismarck in his reply: Politics is the art of the possible. It was a realistic assessment of the current world situation that prompted him and Kissinger.

Has the world situation changed since then? Has the balance of power changed? Has the United States gained strategic superiority? No. The present administration cannot ignore these factors. It is known and understood in Washington that U.S. national security depends on Soviet-U.S. relations and therefore SALT-II is of political interest. Its conclusion will have a favorable effect on trade and so it is also of economic interest and, last but not least, it is of domestic political interest since the presidential election campaign has practically started. Before the presidential election in 1980, Carter must show results. He has very little to boast about in his domestic policy. The state of the economy is bad, inflation is continuing and dissatisfaction is widespread. Camp David, heralded as a tremendous success, has turned out to be a bluff. The establishment of diplomatic relations with China received vast publicity but its effect on the average American is not too great. In other words, it is not enough to win the election; more than that is needed. A SALT treaty would be a realistic and considerable success. As I see it, the U.S. administration is actively preparing for the signing of a SALT treaty. An indication of this is that in order to pave the way, it has activated its relations with the Senate; members of the administration are explaining in detail to the senators what advantages an agreement will have for the United States.

[Question] The signing of the treaty is not enough for it to come into force, since the legislature must pass it by a two-thirds majority and it is not certain that the Senate will do it.

[Answer] I agree with you, there is a problem here. There is a problem because there are many well-meaning but ill-informed men in the Senate. Perhaps you will find this strange, since an American senator must be a well-informed, responsible politician. However, when you talk to senators, you have the impression that many of them are the prisoners of their own propaganda and get their data from the tendentious articles of the New York TIMES or the Washington POST. There are some like Jackson, who is called Senator (?Boeing) by Americans themselves, whose interests are contrary to detente. Thus, the ratification will not be easy but this is not our headache but the U.S. administration's. I do not believe that a U.S. administration that signs SALT-II and cannot obtain its approval by the Senate can survive the next election. If Carter cannot obtain approval by the Senate he will hardly be president after the 1980 elections. This is his problem. But this is a problem for the senators as well, since public opinion polls indicate that 72 to 75 percent of Americans are in favor of signing SALT-II and the senators cannot ignore this. The resistance of the Senate, by the way, is somewhat exaggerated by the U.S. administration and the press and this is one of the ways of putting pressure on the USSR.

[Question] Does a propaganda campaign such as the one about the events in Cambodia not have some effect on the signing of SALT-II? Does it not influence public opinion?

[Answer] A stand in favor of the overthrown Cambodian regime is hardly defensible, since over the past 2 years a good deal was said about the cruelty of the Pol Pot regime, the genocide in Cambodia, and the execution of 3 million out of 8 million Khmers. All this was openly stated in the papers for the purpose of discrediting communism by saying that it was Cambodian communists who were exterminating the people. Pol Pot and his clique had, of course, as much to do with communism as the German National Socialists had to do with socialism. This was a feudal, fascist group. Now that official U.S. circles are suddenly backing Pol Pot, they will lose their credibility. Therefore, the propaganda can hardly obtain the desired anti-Vietnam and anti-Soviet effect which could influence the development of relations.

[Question] But couldn't this propaganda be used to show that the standpoint of the socialist countries is not uniform?

[Answer] I do not think that this is a question of propaganda. I do not believe that the leaders of a few institutions in Yugoslavia and Romania have come under the influence of this propaganda; here we can see determined political calculations. I do not wish to say what calculations because this is a different question. However, I think that a person who presumes [batorsagot reszmaganak], directly or indirectly, to defend one of the most bloodthirsty regimes in recent history will weaken his own position because there are morals and there are principles that cannot be manipulated for short-term political objectives. No side has the right to support a regime that murdered its own people to an unprecedented extent.

MOSCOW COMMENTATORS VIEW SOVIET-U.S. RELATIONS IN 1979

LD220252 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[From the "Thinking Out Loud" program with Paula Garb, Boris Belitskiy and Vladimir Pozner]

[Excerpts] [Garb] Well, this is our first discussion in 1979 so it seems logical to look at what the new year has in store for us in certain areas. And what area could be more important in the world today that Soviet-American relations? So let's discuss some of the prospects in this vital area on the basis of both the balance sheet for last year and (?current events). Boris, why don't you begin by telling us what you would regard as the most important development in Soviet-American relations in 1979?

[Belitskiy] Well, I'd expect the most important development in Soviet-American relations this year to be the conclusion of SALT-II, the new agreement to limit strategic offensive arms. Last yeare there were--(?let me think)--six high-level Soviet-American meetings on the subject, and there is now every reason to expect a SALT-II agreement in the very near future. At the latest, in December, Gromyko-Vance meeting in Geneva, both sides reaffirmed their determination to work for a speedy conclusion of the talks.

[Garb] Just a minute, Boris. I've seen some American newspaper reports claiming the Soviet Union at that meeting displayed an unwillingness to conclude the talks.

[Belitskiy] No, no, Paula. That's not so at all. We feel that the spreading of such rumors by the American media in fact is a deliberate attempt to misrepresent the Soviet posture at the talks. It is, in fact, yet another reminder of the acute political struggle in the United States over SALT-II. Here in the Soviet Union we regard a speedy conclusion of a new strategic arms limitation agreement with the United States as being extremely important; important to building up trust between them and important to world peace. This was reaffirmed by President Brezhnev at a meeting with a group of U.S. senators, and Senator Baker said afterwards he was convinced the Soviet Union was eagerly working for the speedy conclusion of a SALT-II agreement. And just one more remark: I would say that we are now already looking ahead beyond SALT-II to important agreements which would follow it on effectively reducing strategic arms and bringing in the other nuclear powers as well into the nuclear disarmament (?process).

[Garb] Well, what is your suggestion, Vladimir?

[Pozner] (?It's pretty obvious what Boris said), the most important thing in 1979, the conclusion of a SALT agreement and what's going to lead out of it. It is something both countries need to a very great extent.

Now as President Brezhnev noted when interviewed by TIME magazine, the work on SALT-II is nearing conclusion, even though it obviously demands some more time before the final agreement is reached. He expressed the hope that the principle of equality and equal security which both countries acknowledge as the basis for negotiation will lead the way to an agreement that will be signed by the presidents of the two countries in the near future. There is no doubt that the goal of ending the arms race and guaranteeing security is well worth the effort both sides are making. When Boris spoke about statements in the U.S. press to the effect that the Soviet Union is stalling on SALT, he touched on a very important matter. In reality, what we are seeing, and what we have been seeing for the past 2 years, is an attempt on Washington's part to seek its own advantages at the disadvantage of others. That was another point President Brezhnev made. But the fact of the matter is that such an approach is not new. It (?smacks) of a time (?of the) cold war, something that objective reality has proven to be obsolete. Clearly, if one side sees the other only as the enemy and I put that word in quotes--why (?it's hardly possible) to hope for real progress. [passage indistinct] and in addition to that relations tend to stagnate or even revert to what they once were. And that is what's been happening over the past (?few) years, and that is a trend that can and must be overcome for the sake of mutual security, and for that matter, (?for) full international security. For that I would agree that SALT is an extremely important thing--the most important indeed for our relations in 1979--but I also think and hope that in 1979 we will see an improvement in economic relations.

[Belitskiy] Yes, that is extremely important.

[Pozner] I think that we're seeing a kind of, well, perhaps, a trend is too strong a word, but we are seeing certain changes in that respect, and (?we) recall the group of American businessmen who came over here not long ago--300 people with [word indistinct] among them David Rockefeller, Michael Forrestal. I think that was an indication that there is a very strong feeling in the American business community that things (?could change) for the better in economic relations (?between our countries).

[Belitskiy] Vladimir, let me just go on from there. I think you've made a very important point and there's a few figures that come to mind that I think illustrate the point you've just made. Now it's a fact that there has been a very sharp drop in two-way trade between our two countries. I remember the figures that this trade dropped from $2.5 billions in 1976 to a mere $1.8 billion in 1977. Now the main cause for this drop we see as the discriminatory legislation passed by the U.S. Congress, such as the Jackson-Vanik amendment.

[Garb] Boris, what about this recent meeting of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council in Moscow last month? Did it accomplish anything?

[Pozner] Oh yes, if I may butt in. I know you addressed the question to Boris, but obviously it did and when I mentioned those 300 businessmen they came precisely for that reason and as you probably recall some of the top leaders of the American business community met with President Brezhnev and they certainly accomplished a lot in the way of speaking to each to other and reaching a kind of human understanding; that was very important.

[Belitskiy] Apart from the facts that you've just mentioned, Vladimir, apart from that, I think this meeting reflected the growing pressure inside the United States for lifting the discriminatory restrictions on trade with the Soviet Union. And I think it is important, for example, that this meeting agreed that Soviet-American negotiations should continue on a list of--I think it was--28 projects, business projects; these are negotiations American firms and Soviet foreign trade organizations and economic organizations.

And it was said at the meeting that these projects could increase U.S. exports to the Soviet Union by something like $15 billion over the next 5 years. And I think a figure like that speaks for itself. It shows how much business the United States has lost through absurd attempt to use trade as a wedge for interfering in Soviet internal affairs. Such an attitude did reflect a complete lack of understanding of what trade is all about.

[Pozner] I'd like to get back to the subject of SALT-II for a minute, because of its vital importance for our mutual relations. SALT-II has strong opponents in the United States and there are at least two points I want to make in connection with that. Point one: These opponents are now insisting on a SALT agreement that will guarantee U.S. military superiority. In the past the word was parity but now it has become superiority. Clearly, no one is going to buy that. Parity is the only basis for a SALT agreement and I think that should be made clear to one and all.

My second point pertains to what looks like a deliberate effort on the part of the U.S. media and certain politicians to misinform their public, insofar as what SALT implies. If anything, the SALT-II agreement demands a greater effort and greater compromise, at least in certain respects on the Soviet Union's part. That, too, should be made crystal clear to the U.S. public, especially considering the Soviet Union's readiness to make these extra efforts.

And a final point: Due to recent developments, certain quarters in the United States seek a mutual reduction of offensive strategic weapons with the USSR while fostering plans to arm third parties that have no intentions whatsoever of limiting their arms. Now that is a rather transparent ploy to begin with and what's more it is dangerous to one and all, its planners included. In fact the story about the hunter who calls out to partner: "Hey! I've caught a tiger!" "Bring it over here," says the other. "I can't. It won't come." "Well then, come on over here yourself." "I can't. It won't let me." These third parties I mentioned could very well be like that tiger.

Well, OK, Boris, now I know you wanted to go on to other important areas of Soviet-U.S. relations.

[Belitskiy] Another area where we would like to see further progress in 1979, I'd say, is the area of scientific and technical exchanges. Now this, I believe, is a particularly promising area in the relations between our two countries, because for one thing they are the two countries with the biggest scientific potentials in the world, and adding these two potentials together can do, well, miracles in the world today. Of course there is some measure of Soviet-American cooperation in a multitude of scientific and technical fields, ranging from the development of new energy sources and particle physics to the treatment of spinal injuries and the protection of migratory birds.

[Pozner] In conclusion I'd like to quote President Brezhnev again on Soviet-American relations, which are, after all, the subject of this discussion. He said: My entire experience makes me believe that good-neighborly relations, regardless of differences in political systems and outlooks, is the best of approaches in interstate relations. I am deeply convinced, he said, that Soviet-American relations can indeed be not only normal but really good. This is no utopia. The basis for reaching that goal was created earlier but later on artificial barriers were erected, barriers that can and must be dismantled.

[Garb] Well, I definitely agree we have plenty of reason to be hopeful this year. And thank you very much for your contribution.

RESTON ARTICLE ON VANCE APPROACH TO SOVIET TIES REVIEWED

LD220921 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[IZVESTIYA 'Press Service' report: "On a Realistic Basis"]

[Text] The New York TIMES recently published an article by its leading commentator, James Reston, about U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's approach to solving international problems. "Cyrus Vance," the article says, "is a calm and cautious member of Carter's Cabinet and is skeptical about the sensational approach to international affairs. He is a lawyer who is used to resolving problems in sequence .... He has endless patience and is perfectly well aware of what he can do and what he cannot do."

In Vance's opinion, the main problem of U.S. foreign policy in 1979 will be the mainteannce of a just equilibrium in East-West relations. He believes that however significant relations between different countries may be, nothing can be more important than the efforts to settle the disagreements between the two great powers--the USSR and the United States. "He wants the SALT-II treaty between the United States and the USSR to be signed and then ratified by the Senate," Reston points out. "And he particularly wants President Brezhnev to come to the United States not only to sign this agreement but also to discuss with President Carter before it is too late the question ... of preserving peace."

Reston makes it clear that the State Department leader's viewpoint is different from the basic standpoints adopted by certain other Carter foreign policy advisers. Vance is "secretely worried" at the tendency which has become evident in Washington to attempt to provoke the Soviet Union and he is disturbed at the intensifying anti-Soviet speeches in Congress. Vance says that he did not become secretary of state in order to revive an acute conflict of the type of the old cold war and that he "would resign tomorrow" if he believed that everything was moving toward a revival of that conflict.

It is evident from the article in the New York TIMES that the position of the three West European leaders at the recent meeting of the heads of state and government of the United States, the FRG, France and Britain in Guadeloupe constituted definite support for Cyrus Vance's approach to Soviet-American relations. They voiced concern at the intensification of anti-Soviet propaganda in the United States and supported the need to conclude a second agreement between the USSR and the United States on limiting strategic offensive armaments, stressing that this treaty accords with the interests of West Europe's security.

CARTER'S BURDET ENCOURAGES MILITARY SPENDING, CUTS SOCIAL PROGRAMS

LD201235 Moscow TASS in English 1145 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Washington, January 20, TASS--President Carter sent to Congress a message with draft federal budget for the 1980 fiscal year beginning on October 1.

The President describes the budget as "austere and stringent," emphasizing that it will disappoint those Americans who are pressing for an increase in federal expenditure on domestic programs. President Carter justifies the extraordinary limitations on government spending by an utter necessity for combatting inflation, the rate of which was more than nine percent in the calendar year 1978, for reducing and ultimately fully eliminating chronic deficits of the federal budget.

The President points out that in order to attain these ends the country must make veritable sacrifices.

President Carter is proposing to fix federal expenditure at 532 billion dollars with the revenue level of 503 billion dollars. He emphasizes that this will make it possible to diminish down to 29 billion dollars the federal budget deficit which in the current fiscal year, as the government estimates, is to amount to 57 billion dollars.

The draft budget leaves no doubt that, like before, the government unreservedly gives priority to the interests of the U.S. military-industrial complex to the detriment of the country's genuine needs. Pleading a necessity to maintain a strong military might, the President insists on an increase in overall military expenditure in the new fiscal year up to an unprecedented level of 138.2 billion dollars. Military appropriations will run at 125.8 billion dollars, which in real spending will be approximately three percent more than the Pentagon received in the current fiscal year.

But even these astronomical figures do not give full idea of complete scope of U.S. military expenditure, since funds for a number of programs are camouflaged in other items of the federal budget, specifically, in the appropriations for the Department of Energy which actively engages in the development of new systems of nuclear weapons.

The draft budget envisages a further increase in strategic and conventional armaments for an interference, on the plea of protection of U.S. interests, in explosive areas of Asia, the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, and a modernization of the navy.

The President reports an intention to start a full-scale development of the "MX" intercontinental ballistic missiles in 1979, to increase the purchase of missile carrying "Trident" submarines and submarine-launched intercontinental ballistic missiles, to complete work on the creation of cruise missile and to adopt it. Appropriations for military research and for the development of still more sophisticated systems of weapons of mass destruction are to increase.

According to President Carter, the main emphasis in the 1980 fiscal year is to be laid on strengthening U.S. Armed Forces within the framework of the bloc of NATO. The USA intends to still more actively push West European countries on to the road of the arms race, planning a number of joint programs. Those include the purchase of the AWACS, Air Warning and control system by NATO partners, and joint production of F-16 fighters, and guns for new tanks.

Justifying an increase in nonproductive military spending, the President resorts to the trite argument about a mythical "Soviet military threat" to the USA and its NATO allies.

President Carter is stating the government's decision to increase by 900 million dollars the appropriations for so-called foreign "aid" program which serves as one of the main foreign-policy instruments to ensure U.S. strategic interests abroad. For a direct military support alone to the regimes welcome to Washington, the U.S. administration assigns 516 million dollars.

As for the "sacrifices" planned by the government, it is broad sections of U.S. population in the first place, as is obvious from the message, that are meant to make them. Thus, the main revenue to the state treasury--227.3 billion dollars--will be made up by means collected as individual income taxes whereas corporate taxes will amount to only 71 billion dollars.

Ignoring the protests of the public, the government is reaffirming its intention to curtail appropriations for acutely necessary social problems. Admitting that unemployment, particularly that among members of the national minorities, remains too high, the President nevertheless is suggesting a 1.1-billion-dollar cut in expenditure for vocational training and job placement and the related services. Means earmarked for the needs of regional urban and rural development will be cut by 1.8 billion dollars, appropriations for combatting crime will be frozen. The financing of the systems of health care, education, grants to veterans, and transport will increase only slightly.

U.S. EMPLOYING ISRAEL, JAPAN AS 'SUPPORT' STATES IN ASIA

LD192106 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Andrey Shatilov commentary]

[Text] In connection with events in Iran, there have been energetic calls on the American Government in Washington to reconsider various aspects of U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. It makes you wonder what the White House is pondering over in connection with events in Iran. The American journalists close to the White House circles report that attempts are being made there to advance yet another theory to justify the expansion of American interference in the affairs of the nations of that region in Asia. The domino doctrine advanced by Washington back in the times of the American aggression in Indochina is taken as a prototype for this new theory, but American strategists have added a new element to it. Events in Iran have made them take another look at the role of that country as a mainstay of the American military presence in Asia. This mainstay is now crumbling. This, the New York TIMES has reported, has compelled some experts to start looking for another pro-Western country that could assume this role in the future, or become what American official circles call a second support. American strategists do not have to look for a candidate to this role. Israel has long since been known as the candidate, so reliable by American standards that Washington even attempts to assign Israel the job of building a new aggressive military bloc under the U.S. aegis in Asia.

Washington intends to assign Japan a similar role at the other end of the Asian Continent. News has leaked into the press that at their recent talks the United States and Japan discussed ways of building up the might of Japan's Navy, to which they Pentagon intends to hand over the functions of patrolling the western part of the Pacific. In the opinion of American strategists, the package of measures to strengthen the U.S.-sponsored military alliances in the Far East and the Persian Gulf will make it possible to relieve considerable American forces--above all, naval forces--to build up the American military presence in the Indian Ocean. So, as we see, the new element of the American strategy in Asia is actually an improved version of the policy from the position of strength. It is no secret against whom this policy is intended. The New York TIMES recently hinted rather transparently that having cared for the edges of the so-called arch of instability, American strategists will soon get themselves busy with its central part, South Asia. American observers believe that there, too, Washington intends to look for a second support. A direct reference to this is the talk that has intensified in Washington about the possibility of resuming the supplies of American arms to South Asia. So, as we see, American strategists and those acting on their recommendations have drawn no proper conclusions from events in Iran and from the past events in Indochina. They still regard the Asian Continent as an object of American interests and not as a region of independent nations having every right to be the arbiter of their own destiny.

PRC'S 'CAPITULATIONIST' POSITION ON TAIWAN ASSAILED

LD191303 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 79 p 5 LD

[M. Georgiyev article: "Two Chinas?"]

[Text] On 1 January there began in Beijing [Peking] what transatlantic newspapers term a "honeymoon" in Sino-U.S. relations. At the receptions which are following one after another the Beijing leaders are proposing toasts to the "restoration of traditional friendship" and the "opportunities for cooperation which are opening up." Here they prefer to make no mention of the conditions which Beijing formerly set for the restoration of relations with the United States, for, as the Japanese newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN writes, these conditions have been "not completely" fulfilled, to put it mildly.

These conditions were as follows: The severance of U.S.-Taiwan diplomatic relations, the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Taiwan and the Taiwan Strait, and the abrogation of the U.S.-Taiwan mutual defense treaty. Only with respect to the first condition can it be said that the question has seemingly been answered, since 1 January the Taiwan and U.S. state flags were lowered over the embassies in Washington and Taipei, although shuttle operations by high-ranking officials are in fact continuing between these cities. As for the other conditions, Beijing prefers not to say a lot about them. Exactly as in K.A. Krylov's fable: "Before that, my dear, weren't we in the soft grass..." [do togo 1. golubchik, bylo v myagkikh muravakh u nas...].

The world public views the Chinese leaders' new position as a quite definite policy. Its essence comes down to the following: Let the United States remain in Taiwan, where it has billions in capital investments. In other words, Beijing has in fact set about recognizing the "two Chinas" for an indefinite period. This was frankly stated by Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping] during his visit to Japan. "The process of Taiwan's liberation" he said, "may take 10,100 or 1,000 years."

After this it is clear why, as the Washington POST writes, in a talk with Woodcock, head of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking, Deng Xiaoping "made it clear that his government would close its eyes, at the sale of U.S. arms to Taiwan." It is not surprising that the slogan "liberate Taiwan come what may" simultaneously disappeared from the Chinese newspapers and the once popular song on this subject ceased to be broadcast over the radio. Z. Brzezinski, the U.S. President's national security adviser, in preparing the document on mutual diplomatic recognition stated that "Beijing will not conquer Taiwan lest it jeopardize its own plans" which are based on "close cooperation with the West and in particular with the United States and Japan."

The world press draws attention to Beijing's capitulationist position with respect to Taiwan. Thus the West German newspaper KOELNER STADT-ANZEIGER writes: "The normalization of relations between Beijing and Washington became possible as a result of China's concessions on two important questions. Beijing agreed to deliveries of U.S. defensive arms to Taiwan and to the retention of the U.S.-Taiwan mutual defense treaty...."

And that is what is happening; now, despite the establishment of U.S.-PRC diplomatic relations, deliveries of U.S. arms to Taiwan, according to the U.S. press, are even increasing. According to a Pentagon report, by 1983 it is planned to deliver arms worth many millions of dollars to Taiwan. These deliveries will include jet fighters, Sidewinder and Hawk missiles, and spare parts for military equipment. In addition Israel, not without U.S. agreement, has joined in these operations and is already delivering missile components to Taiwan.

U.S. naval forces will remain in the Taiwan Strait. The Hong Kong newspaper MING PAO writes: "The U.S. 7th fleet, including ships carrying nuclear armaments, officials report, will remain in Taiwan waters. This step...has received Beijing's tacit approval."

The Chinese leaders are currently very zealous in their devotion to the reunification of Taiwan. They even adopted an appeal to their Taiwanese "compatriots" on this question. But they are setting aside...1,000 years for the solution of the problem. Clearly they are not worried about the fate of their Taiwanese "compatriots" in the same way as they are not worried about the colonial status of Hong Kong and Macao, where the Beijing "revolutionaries," in conjunction with the colonialists, are oppressing millions of Chinese and making a handsome profit out of it.

All things are closely related in the world. Beijing's position regarding Taiwan is perfectly clear. However hard the Maoists try to conceal the fact, it is determined by their "supreme interests." And these interests consist in the fact that Beijing is counting on playing the "American card" in its desire to create a "united front of struggle against the Soviet Union" and the other socialist countries which are the main obstacles to Beijing's global expansionists aims. Moreover, by betraying national interests, the Maoists are hoping to gain access to NATO military arsenals so that they can then try, with the help of Western weapons, to implement their aggressive plans. Thus, recognition of the actual "two Chinas" situation is in keeping with Beijing's farreaching hegemonist intentions.

PRC COURTING U.S. TO OPPOSE USSR'S GROWING ASIAN INFLUENCE

LD192234 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 19, TASS--In an article on relations between the great powers, the magazine TIME writes about the stay in Beijing [Peking] of a group of American senators. It says in this connection, among other things, that the six American senators could hardly believe their ears when at a meeting in Beijing last week Chinese leaders told the delegation, led by Sam Nunn (Democrat, Georgia) that this communist government heartily supports the American military presence in the Far East. The senators were even told, they said, of the Chinese benevolent attitude to the idea of expanding the American military presence in the western Pacific. A Chinese officer told the Americans of his hope that American warships will be calling at Chinese ports. The fact that a regime, which has always hurled all possible abuse at American imperialism, describing it as a "paper tiger" is now so openly and shamelessly wooing the United States, is one of the most striking metamorphoses in the history of modern diplomacy. It reflects in considerable measure the resolve of Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping] and other new Chinese leaders to secure Washington's aid in opposing the Soviet Union's growing influence in Asia.

LI XIANNIAN'S VISIT TO AFRICA DISCUSSED

LD210257 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The trip of Li Xiannian [Li Hsien-nien], vice premier of the PRC State Council, to Africa, where he visited Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia and Zaire, has just ended.

Chinese propaganda, our commentator notes, is trying to present this trip as a historic one supposedly opening a new page in Chinese-African relations. However, even the bourgeois press and in particular the Washington POST assess its results as being extremely scant.

On the completion of the visit to Lusaka, Dar es Salaam and Maputo neither a communique nor a joint statemement was published. In the capitals of the frontline states which are in the frontline of the struggle against the racist regimes, the guest from the PRC increasingly restricted himself to verbal assurances of friendship. They never did receive an articulate explanation concerning China's policy in Africa where the PRC has alienated itself from support for the national liberation movements in Rhodesia, Namibia and the Republic of South Africa. Furthermore, the Beijing [Peking] Maoists act in unison with the forces of neo-colonialism and racism. It is sufficient to recall China's treacherous stand toward the national liberation movement during the Angolan events. When the South African racists and the U.S. imperialists were trying to remove Angola's legitimate government from power, Beijing then became their ally. Not only has it not recognized the People's Republic of Angola to this date but it is continuing to support the reactionary splinter groups the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola and Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave [FLEC].

According to press reports large caches of arms, mortar shells, machineguns and rifles of Chinese make are falling into the hands of the splinter groups. Among those who are training the mercenaries for the racist regimes are military advisers and instructors from Beijing. According to news agencies the Chinese Government has invited Nzita, head of the separatist group FLEC to pay an official visit to Beijing. Li Xiannian tried to use his trip for open anti-Soviet propaganda, but his insulting attacks on the socialist states met with a sharp rebuff. In response to the hackneyed claims that hegemonism represented the main threat to the developing countries, Dos Santos, Mozambique minister of planning, stated bluntly that the threat was from imperialism, the people's constant enemy. And the Maoists' alliance with the imperialists has progressed so far that even Radio South Africa is making highly eloquent acknowledgments. China, it states, has lately been supporting almost without reservations all of the West's actions in Africa as though becoming its unofficial ally.

DEMONSTRATIONS OUTSIDE HUA GUOFENG'S RESIDENCE REPORTED

LD220746 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by commentator Valeriy Kosovan]

[Text] Another demonstration was held yesterday in Beijing [Peking near the residence of Chinese leader Hua Guofeng [Hua Kuo-feng]. Angry demonstrators, dressed in rags, once again tried to secure a meeting with Hua Guofeng or any highly placed representative of the authorities in order to submit their complaints and express protest against human rights violations. An AFP correspondent notes: A week ago these people took part in a demonstration near the Hua Guofeng residence. In the same way as last time, however, they have been unable to achieve anything.

Among them were poor, deprived peasants, former townspeople sent to the rural areas at the beginning of the 1960's, as well as victims of political repressions of the period of the notorious Cultural Revolution. A participant in the demonstration a 40-year old woman who arrived from Inner Mongolia, told the AFP correspondent: We would like to but cannot live a life of dignity, we cannot openly express our feelings and thoughts and even when we dare to do so, our leaders do not wish to listen to us.

SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA CONTINUES VISIT

Oreja Stresses Talks' Importance

LD201036 Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 20, TASS--The visit to the USSR was a success and proceeded in a constructive atmosphere, said Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre before departure from Moscow. This visit, he told a TASS correspondent, provided a good possibility for a wide exchange of views on questions pertaining to the state and general prospects of bilateral relations between Spain and the Soviet Union as well as on a number of international issues of mutual interest. In this connection, the minister pointed out, particularly important was the talk with chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin and the talks with USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko.

Marcelino Oreja Aguirre stressed in conclusion that the visit to the Soviet Union has been an important stage in a further broadening and deepening of relations between Spain and the USSR in various fields for the benefit of the peoples of both countries.

Gromyko Attends Reception

LD192312 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1733 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 19 January, TASS--Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, the Spanish foreign minister, who is on an official visit to the USSR, visited the House of Friendship with the Peoples of Foreign Countries today. He opened an exhibition of Goya engravings along with Yuriy Ovchinnikov, president of the "USSR-Spain" Society and vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The Spanish minister of foreign affairs then held a reception. On the Soviet side, the reception was attended by Andrey Gromyko, USSR minister of foreign affairs, and other officials.

Visit Concludes

LD200728 Moscow TASS in English 0721 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 20, TASS--Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre has today left the Soviet Union for home. He was on an official visit in the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government. Marcelino Oreja Aguirre was seen off at the airport by USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and other officials.

Analyst Assesses Visit

LD201916 Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 20, TASS--TASS political news analyst Anatoliy Krasikov writes:

The stay of Spain's Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre in the Soviet Union has fruitful results. The first official visit to the USSR by the head of Spain's Foreign Affairs Ministry in the entire history of the relations between the two countries has passed in the spirit of mutual understanding, in a friendly and cordial situation and showed mutual striving for cooperation in the interests of the Spanish and Soviet peoples, in the interests of consolidating international peace and security.

One of the main results of the talks that were held in Moscow in the past days is the clear and unambiguous confirmation by both sides of their profound adherence to the aims and principles of the United Nations Charter, their firm resolve to promote universal peace and internation security along the roads of detente and disarment, observing all the principles of mutual relations among states that were proclaimed in the Final Acts of the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe.

During his meetings with Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin and USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, Mr. Marcelino Oreja Aguirre spoke about Spain's wish to develop further relations with the Soviet Union, to step up contacts of leaders of both countries.

It was said in reply that this meets the strivings of the Soviet Union. Speaking at a luncheon held in honour of the Spanish guest, Andrey Gromyko said: "We wish to see Spain playing on the international arena the role that is in keeping with its potentialities and with the contribution of the Spanish people to world civilization."

In this connection it is of undoubted importance that both countries recognize the usefulness of periodical contacts on international questions and questions of their relations that are of mutual interest, confirm their striving for further development of Soviet-Spanish relations in all spheres in the spirit of mutual trust, cooperation and friendship.

The agreement of cultural cooperation and the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation that were signed by Andrey Gromyko and Marcelino Oreja Aguirre are called upon to be specific contribution to such development of relations.

Further widening of trade between the two countries will also be of considerable importance. And though from the time of the resumption of commercial relations the volume of Soviet-Spanish trade increased approximately six-fold, both the USSR and Spain are aware how vast are the untapped resources in view of the real economic situation of both countries and the overall character of their relations at a given stage.

Leaving Moscow on Saturday, January 20, the head of Spain's Foreign Affairs Ministry expressed satisfaction with the results of his visit. The Soviet side is satisfied with them, too. Good work has been done in the Soviet capital and this gives the ground for optimism in assessing the future of Soviet-Spanish relations.

Glazunov Views Visit

LD202103 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1700 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Viktor Glazunov Commentary]

[Text] Soviet-Spanish talks were held in Moscow during the stay of Spain's foreign minister, Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, who paid an official visit to the Soviet Union. The results of the talks in Moscow can be described as fruitful, says our commentator, Viktor Glazunov.

This found concrete expression in the signing of agreements aimed at widening the range of Soviet-Spanish cooperation. The two sides expressed support for the deepening of international detente, emphasizing the crucial importance of the halting of the arms race and the implementation of real disarmament measures. All this proves that the Soviet-Spanish relations are developing in accordance with the trend mapped out by the decisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

This fact merits particular emphasis, considering that diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Spain were established only 2 years ago.

Much has been done during this short time to develop mutual understanding and cooperation along principles of mutual advantage. The prospects in this area are favorable. The development of Soviet-Spanish relations has once more revealed the consistency of the Soviet course aimed at the maintenance of normal and good relations with all states, large and small, irrespective of the social systems existing in this or that country. The fact that the relations should be formed on the principles of equality, respect for sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs--in short, that they should serve the cause of peace--is greatly significant. It is the goal of Soviet foreign policy to guarantee conditions promoting communist building which means conditions of permanent peace. This means that the aspirations of the Soviet Union to maintain good relations with other states are not dictated by factors of a trendy nature but result from the essence of our socialist state, Viktor Glazunov says. The Soviet people are welcoming with appreciation the fact that good, peaceful relations have been established between the Soviet Union and practically all the countries in Western Europe, that Europe is becoming a continent of detente. Nevertheless, not wishing the road to detente to be exclusively a privilege of Europe, the Soviet Union wants the process of detente to embrace all the continents. Considering international relations as a whole, detente has no sound alternative. If there is no detente, then there is confrontation, which means cold war and balancing on the brink of hot war. Detente is the only way for the strengthening and preservation of peace. What is the concrete essence of detente? In his interview with the U.S. TIME magazine, Leonid Brezhnev said that detente means transition to normal and balanced relations between states, a process of settling differences of opinion and disputes at the negotiating table, definite trust and the ability to take justified interests into mutual consideration. The Soviet Union aspires to precisely such relations between states. The Soviet Union proceeds on a course leading to peaceful cooperation with all countries--a principled and consistently implemented course.

DEMICHEV MEETS WITH SWEDEN'S EDUCATION MINISTER

LD192158 Moscow in Swedish to Sweden 1900 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] USSR Culture Minister Peter Demichev today received Swedish Education Minister Jan-Erik Wikstrom, who is paying an official visit to the Soviet Union. Their talks dealt with matters concerning cooperation in culture during the current stage and the prospects for their development. Goran Ryding, Sweden's ambassador to the Soviet Union, was present at the talks.

NEED FOR FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN SALT-II DISCUSSED

LD192344 Moscow in French to Europe 1800 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] World opinion had been closely following the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting strategic armaments, SALT-II. As Leonid Brezhnev said in his interview to the U.S. magazine TIME, these talks are nearing conclusion.

The signing of the SALT-II agreement, our commentator Vasiliy Guryev writes, will obviously (?make) a splendid contribution to detente and the improvement of the international climate. The fact that leaders and public circles in France, the FRG, Great Britain and many other countries are pleading for the urgent signing of this agreement should not be a surprise. The peoples are placing their hopes for consolidation of detente and for new constructive measures for curbing the arms race on this document. It is a fact that states have accumulated a destructive potential liable to endanger humanity's existence.

France, too, disposes of a considerable nuclear potential and devotes nearly one-third of its annual military budget to nuclear weapons.

A SALT-II agreement would allow the opening of new talks to draw up new documents, particularly on the reduction of strategic nuclear arms. And in this, the other nuclear powers could also take part--France, Great Britain and China. In Paris last October, Andrey Gromyko, Soviet foreign minister, said that the USSR favors France's participation in SALT-II. International opinion is entitled to expect that France, a European great power, actively participate in the search for solving the disarmament problem. According to certain French press commentators, however, this prospect is not to everyone's liking in France.

In French leading circles, some people seem to be searching for a pretext to evade the responsibility of halting the nuclear arms race (?a responsibility) which France has to assume along with the other nuclear powers. In justifying this stand, certain French commentators--and not for the first time--are resorting to anti-Soviet utterances. Thus Pierre d'Harcourt of LE FIGARO pretends that the USSR wishes to include the French nuclear potential in the U.S. arsenal and on this basis begin talks on limiting strategic arms. So everything is turned upside down. It is of course not the Soviets but indeed the NATO leaders who are inclined to view the French nuclear forces as an integral part of the Atlantic system. It is NATO that is hatching plans in cold blood to transform Europe into a nuclear battlefield and that wants the peoples and governments of West Europe to accept this idea.

As far as the USSR is concerned, it has always given proof of its understanding with regard to France's wish to consolidate its independence in foreign policy as well as in the field of defense. The general [passage indistinct] of France is to be found in its independence. It is precisely this latter which is of the nature to allow France to make a constructive contribution to disarmament, in particular by its participation at the right moment in the talks on arms limitation.

Jacques Isnard of LE MONDE, and France Radio, are going even further. They quite seriously calculate the time the Soviet Army will need to reach the Rhine and the Atlantic Coast. They have raised the spectre of a Soviet threat to prove that the USSR is aiming at military superiority over the West. But, as Leonid Brezhnev in his interview to TIME stressed, the USSR does not seek military superiority over the West. All its proposals concerning disarmament and military detente are designed to achieve a reduction of armed forces and armaments on the basis of equality and equal security, without disturbing Europe's present military equilibrium.

It is in the strengthening of security that peoples can see the meaning of the Soviet proposals on disarmament. It is in this perspective that the SALT agreement is envisaged.

FRANCE ATTEMPTS TO RESIST EUROPEAN INTEGRATION MOVES

LD190907 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 79 p 4 LD

[E. Arsenyev article: "France: In Favor of an Independent Policy"]

[Text] After a turbulent debate France's National Assembly recently adopted at its first reading a law banning the financing by "Common Market" organs of the political campaign for next June's elections to the "European Assembly," or, as it is often called, the "European Parliament." Together with the communist deputies, the representatives of the Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR)--the main ruling coalition party--voted also for the law.

Of course, all this does not rule out the fact that the bourgeois parties will in practice still enjoy the material support of both national and international monopolies. However, the debate and vote in the National Assembly have attracted the French public's attention as being to a certain extent indicative of sentiments in France today; not only regarding the elections to the "European Parliament" but also regarding the problems of France's national independence and foreign policy as a whole.

Thus a particularly acute debate has developed over France's policy in the sphere of so-called "European building." France's place in Europe, its attitude toward expansion of the "Common Market," toward the "European Monetary System", toward plans for far-reaching economic and political integration in West Europe, toward NATO--all these are the subject of acute political clashes and debate.

French working people know from their own experience the results of the policy of the big monopolies which rule the roost in both France and the "Common Market." There is massive unemployment, the like of which France has never known. According to trade union figures, there are now about 1.8 million unemployed in the country. Entire sectors of industry, particularly the metallurgical, shipbuilding and textile industries, are in decline. Profitable enterprises are being closed in Lorraine and Brittany, in Paris and Marseilles and more and more factories and plants which could still operate are being scrapped. All this is the result of the calculated policy of the monopolies which are implementing "strict economies" at working people's expense.

Farm workers are also being seriously hurt. The "Common Market" agricultural policy encourages large farms and is ruining many small and medium farms.

If these are the results of "Common Market" policy in its present form, where is the guarantee that its expansion will not cause new crisis phenomena. The French public is also concerned by certain NATO intentions to transform the "European Parliament" into a "supranational organ" able by a majority of votes to take decisions binding on all EEC members. At present this Parliament is purely consultative, while in the EEC's main leading organ--the Council of Ministers--unanimity is required for adoption of decisions on fundamental issues: That is, each country has the right of veto. Many French people fear that expansion of the powers of the Parliament, in which representatives of the NATO countries are in the majority, may curtail France's sovereignty and intensify NATO pressure on its foreign policy.

Even the country's ruling circles are voicing doubts about the consequences for France and its national independence of continuing the policy line of further integration within the "Common Market" framework. Disagreements on this issue within the government coalition have intensified.

Thus the leaders of the centrist groupings (Lecanuet, Poniatowski and others) have long advocated far-reaching integration, as far as the creation of "supranational organs," and the pursuit of a "joint" foreign policy. Moreover, France is also being pressed by Atlantic circles hoping gradually to return the country to the NATO military organization. They are once again putting forward the idea of creating in one form or another a West European "joint defense" within the framework of an expanded "Common Market"--that is, a new military bloc attached to NATO.

The RPR adopts a different viewpoint. Previously the Gaullists, too, have striven to preserve special positions on certain issues of government policy. While they support the government and largely act together with the other ruling coalition parties, at the same time they often criticize concessions of the advocates of "supranational organs" and Atlanticism.

Literally the day after the December 1978 conference of EEC heads of state and government in Brussels which decided to create the "European Monetary System" RPR Chairman J. Chirac addressed the members of his party and the country's public. He was highly critical of the government's policy on questions of "European building" and defended the country's independence, calling the supporters of integration a "foreign party" working to weaken France's role in the international arena.

The Gaullists' criticism of the government's actions can hardly be explained solely in terms of the political maneuvers of the present RPR leadership. It certainly takes into account the real discontent among the middle urban and rural strata with the "Common Market" policy.

The political and social forces who back Gaullist ideas of national independence are also dissatisfied with the course toward further integration. Patriotism has always struck the right chord for most French people of any political allegiance. France has not forgotten De Gaulle's words to the effect that the strength of French foreign policy is its independence. The feelings of these circles are often expressed in speeches by General de Gaulle's former comrades in arms--M. Debre, Couve de Murville and others. Some Gaullists, in particular M. Debre, have even said that if their demands for guaranteeed independence for France are not satisfied they will be forced to abandon the government majority.

Criticism from the members of the RPR leadership is, of course, very limited and inconsistent and is made within the framework of the solidarity of all participants in the ruling coalition on the majority of issues. In fact, Chirac himself participated in pursuing a criticized policy when he was prime minister in 1974-1976. Nevertheless this criticism is indicative of the current mood of the French public. On some questions the Gaullists' positions have coincided with the communists' position for the first time in recent years. This applies above all to questions relating to defense of national sovereignty. As in the past--during the resistance years--and again in the fifties--during the struggle against the plan to create a "European defense community"--the Gaullists and communists adopted similar stances favoring an independent foreign policy.

In an attempt to smooth out the differences of opinion in the ruling camp President V. Giscard d'Estaing also advocated this policy at a recent press conference. He assured people that France will oppose the idea of "supranational" EEC organs and will not allow restriction of its national sovereignty. Despite pressure from NATO, France recently refused to join the Atlantic system of "flying radar" (AWACS) along the socialist countries' borders. The French Government has repeatedly stated that it has no intention of returning to the NATO military organization.

"Common Market" and NATO problems have long been a bone of contention among leftwing forces too. The French socialists, like social democratic parties in other West European countries, are active supporters of West European integration, including the creation of "supranational organs."

The communists are waging the most resolute struggle for stronger French national independence and against capitalist integration.

They are exposing big capital's policy of subordinating France's national interests to the international monopolies which dominate the "Common Market."

The PCF has launched a widespread political campaign against attempts by the ruling circles to find a way out of the crisis at the expense of the working people's interests and by limiting national independence.

The Communists regard the "Common Market" as a reality, but they oppose expansion of this organization and they do not want its organs to become "supranational." They note the special danger of plans to subordinate their country to NATO strategy or to a new military-political bloc in West Europe. Last December's PCF Central Committee plenum adopted a special manifesto which has become a kind of platform of communist actions for an independent foreign policy and for peace, disarmament and social progress in Europe.

The plenum urged working people and all national patriotic forces in the country to say "no" to plans to expand the "Common Market" which may lead to economic and social regression and to restricted national sovereignty. The PCF called for a struggle to satisfy working people's demands and for stronger national independence. "The French people must be masters of their own destiny whatever the circumstances," the document says. The PCF advocated "EEC independence from the hegemonistic policy of the United States."

The French Communists advocated strengthened detente and opposed the arms race and any form of "European army" which might give the FRG access to nuclear weapons.

It can be expected that the domestic political struggle over France's European policy will grow fiercer as the elections to the "European Parliament" approach. But it is indicative that, despite the substantial differences between the political parties' positions on questions relating to the "Common Market" and West European intergration, they all favor, although to a different extent, the policy of detente and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. There is widespread understanding among the French public of the importance of all-European cooperation in the spirit of the accords of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and of strengthening friendship among all peoples of the continent.

NORWAY'S NORDLI COMMENTS ON DISARMAMENT

LD202352 Moscow TASS in English 2224 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Oslo, January 20, TASS--Norway's Prime Minister Odvar Nordli said that progress in disarmament is unthinkable without creation of a good political basis for this. For these purposes, he said, it is necessary to intensify the process of the relaxation of international tensions, to strengthen trust among countries and to ensure that all conflicts be settled only by peaceful means.

O. Nordli pointed out that the speediest conclusion of the Soviet-American strategic offensive arms limitation agreement would have great significance. Specific results at the Vienna talks on mutual reduction of troops and armaments in central Europe would also have a great positive effect on the progress in the sphere of disarmament.

Pointing to an important role of small countries in the struggle for disarmament, he stressed the Norway will continue striving to make an active contribution toward achieving progress in disarmament.

Several days ago reports appeared in the Norwegian press about the intention of the Norwegian Government to adopt shortly a decision to allow storing in the country's territory of military equipment for units of armed forces of Britain and Canada and also to study a possibility of concluding an agreement with the United States concerning the sending of U.S. Marines into Norway. Observers believe that this can hardly promote the deepening of the process of detente about which the Norwegian prime minister talked.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON SITUATION IN IRAN

Khomeyni To Return 26 Jan

LD211200 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Fresh demonstrations were staged yesterday in Tehran and a number of other Iranian towns against the antinational and pro-American regime. Ayatollah Khomeyni, the leader of the Moslems opposing the present regime, has said that he would be returning home within the next few days in order to lead the people's struggle aimed at establishing an independent Iran.

News agencies are reporting mutinies at the airbases in Dezful and in the Namadan suburbs. It is also reported that a great number of the Imperial Guard are deserting. Rumors have it in Iran that a military coup d'etat is quite likely. The dispatch of U.S. warships to Iranian coastal waters has caused anxiety among neighboring states.

Tehrani Reportedly Resigns

LD220944 Moscow TASS in English 0902 GMT 22 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Paris, January 22, TASS--President of the Regency Council of Iran Sa'id Tehrani announced his resignation on Sunday here. This is reported by FRANCE PRESSE. Referring to informed Iranian sources, the agency reports that he tendered in his resignation to the leader of the Moslem opposition of Iran, Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Additional Resignations

LD211432 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Two members of the Iranian Regency Council, a former minister and a former chairman of the Supreme Court, resigned today. This has been reported by an AFP correspondent in Tehran. The Regency Council, composed of nine persons personally elected by the shah of Iran, has been called upon to carry out the functions of the absent monarch. The shah, as is known, was forced to leave the country under pressure from the powerful opposition movement.

American Criticizes U.S. Policy

LD210318 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1535 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, 20 Jan, TASS--C. Yost, the famous American diplomat and former U.S. representative to the United Nations, criticizes American policy toward Iran in the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. Recalling Washington's efforts for many years to spread a militarist and anticommunist mood among the Iranian leadership, he concludes that this policy was not in the interest of the Iranian people.

Instead of warning Tehran that it was going too far in increasing its military potential, C. Yost writes, the United States encouraged it in every way to become the Persian Gulf gendarme. Being more concerned with our balanced budget than with Iran's interests, the author continues in his article, we never missed a single chance of selling them the most advanced types of weapons, and we settled 40,000 highly suspect Americans throughout Iran forgetting that the Iranian people are very sensitive to foreign domination. As a result, the United States created a situation in Iran fraught with an inevitable social explosion.

Speaking about U.S. interference in Iranian events, C. Yost stressed in his conclusion: "Judging by everything, some of us have not understood, despite the experiences of the Vietnam war, that even the United States does not always have sufficient resources and that, whatever the United States may undertake, it is the various existing forces in Iran that will determine the course of events there."

Carter Statement Assailed

LD202242 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] President Carter's statement on U.S. support for the Bakhtiar government has aroused universal indignation in Iran. The papers report that in the towns of [names indistinct], the clergymen are beginning their sermons to the townspeople by cursing the U.S. Government, which the people of Iran see as one of the main causes of its misfortune--the turning of the country into an American base and spying center against the neighboring, friendly Soviet Union.

U.S., Soviet Policies Contrasted

LD200202 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] And now a comment about events in Iran by our news analyst, Viktor Yenicheyev. This is what he writes:

In reports of news agencies the Americans who are still staying in Iran are in a state of siege. They are told not to appear in the streets and to conceal their American origin. The NEWSWEEK magazine notes that thousands of Americans have become an object of hatred by the local population. But then, American media are in no hurry to analyze the reasons for this hatred, although many of these reasons are apparent: Judge for yourselves.

Peaceful demonstrations of the population in Iran, who have risen against the shah's regime, are shot at with American arms. These weapons are used to destroy people who refuse to live any longer in poverty and illiteracy, who demand for themselves generally accepted human rights. Thousands of Iranians who have been jailed are subjected to cruel torture which the Iranian secret police, SAVAK, has borrowed from the CIA. It is apparently indicative also that in the past few years the United States has taken out of Iran almost $20 billion in exchange for arms, and yet hundreds of thousands of Iranians have no idea what it is like to have elementary medical care or be sure of a piece of bread next day.

But some people in the United States are trying to explain the reason for Iranian events by something else. For example, it is claimed that the events in Iran are inspired by the Soviet Union. Evidence of that? There is none. Incidentally, President Carter said in a recent interview that no military steps by the Soviet Union had been noticed with regard to events in Iran. Throughout the disturbances in that country, in not a single rally or demonstration held could participants accuse the Soviet Union of interfering in Iran's internal affairs.

Iran is a Soviet neighbor. It is a common border with this country. Of course, we are far from indifferent to events in Iran, but the Soviet Union strictly abides by the principle of no interference in the internal affairs of a neighbor. It believes that the Iranian people must decide their further destiny independently, without any outside interference whatsoever. Practically from the very beginning, the American administration has been trying to assume general control over settling the political situation in Iran. But such control is not confined to theoretical discussions of Iranian problems in the United States. Strange as it may seem, from the angle of international legal relations, the United States has taken rather vigorous practical steps in this direction.

A special group of CIA, Pentagon and State Department officials has been dispatched to Iran. This group has the objective to determine the political future of the Iranian people. To listen to talk by the head of the group, General Huyser, one might get the impression that he is speaking not of solving an internal conflict in a sovereign country but of regulating some incident in an American state. Yet other American military officials go further than that. They are ready now to send special highly mobile forces to the Persian Gulf area. There have been no reports yet that such decisions have been made, but even now the United States has already doubled its naval force off the shore of Iran and has sent to neighboring Saudi Arabia 12 F-15 fighter-bombers. If we add to this the 40,000 or so American servicemen who are stationed in Iran and the modern equipment of the Iranian Army itself, we get a mighty military fist.

I am convinced that Americans themselves would have never allowed the government of another country to solve their internal problems. That is exactly the way the residents of another sovereign country, Iran, regard American interference.

U.S. Aid Denounced

LD191700 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 18 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "U.S. Aid Is a Means for Intervention in Iran's Internal Affairs"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the mammoth demonstrations in Iran calling for grass-root changes are of an anti-U.S. nature, too. The slogan "Americans, get out and leave Iran alone!" may be seen nowadays on the walls of houses in a great many Iranian cities. In this connection, the U.S. bourgeois press, feigning surprise, asks: Where does this strong anti-U.S. feeling of the Iranian people originate? But this is no cause for surprise since the U.S. imperialists have long pursued a policy of flagrant intervention in Iran's internal affairs, which has quite rightly and appropriately aroused the anger and revulsion of the people's masses.

January 19 marks the 27th anniversary of the Iranian-U.S. agreement on so-called aid in accordance with Truman's four point program--a reminder of constant U.S. interference in Iran's internal affairs or of trampling under foot its interests in various fields and in all walks of life. The conditions of this agreement were enslaving to Iran. They envisaged that a large number of U.S. advisers should be dispatched to Iran, that U.S. monopolies ought to be able to send their shoddy and (obsolete) goods to Iran unhindered and duty free and that U.S. capital investments in the Iranian economy should be exempt from any limitations.

The agents of U.S. monopolies in Iran expended a great deal of effort to prevent the establishment of heavy industry in Iran. We know that without the expansion of a national heavy industry, the country's economic advancement, the strengthening of the cornerstones of its political independence and the raising of the people's living standard cannot occur. However, despite all the efforts by Iranian representatives to make use of U.S. loans for expanding a national steel industry, Washington refused to accept this just and appropriate request.

Moreover, when Iran later agreed with the USSR to establish the Esfahan steel mill, the U.S. bourgeois press opposed the creation of this industrial enterprise and said that there was no need for Iran to have a metalurgical industry. KAYHAN and other Iranian papers quite rightly called this noise and din interference in Iran's internal affairs.

The orchestration of the coup d'etat with the direct participation of the U.S. CIA and U.S. advisers resident in Iran constituted an extremely crude imperialist intervention in Iran's internal affairs. This coup, which took place in August 1953, 18 months after the imposition of a U.S. loan in accordance with the Truman plan, toppled the lawful government of Dr Mossadeq, who had really nationalized the Iranian oil industry.

The activities of the U.S. advisers led to the failure and rapid decline of Iranian agriculture. According to Arsanjani, the former minister of agriculture, the monies which were brought into Iran and invested in agriculture did not have the slightest effect and, consequently, Iran lost more than it received in aid from the United States.

Some 27 years have passed since these remarks were made. However, Arsanjani's remarks still reflect the present situation in Iran, where the inequities of the U.S. monopolies that are shamelessly plundering the country's national riches, continue to be felt. The tens of thousands of U.S. advisers, who have filled Iran, are a means for putting into effect the plundering policy of the U.S. imperialists. Therefore, the people's demonstrations that are currently taking place in Tehran and other Iranian cities are of an anti-U.S. nature. The demonstrators are decidedly demanding the withdrawal of U.S. advisers from Iran and that all U.S. intervention in the country's internal affairs be stopped. The vast scale of these demonstrations show that the Iranian people are firmly resolved to free themselves forever from the shackles of foreign dependence and, above all, from the shackles of U.S. dependence.

Constellation Sailing Toward Iran

LD202300 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, January 20, TASS--The newspaper AS-SIYASAH reports that U.S. warships provocative movement in the Indian Ocean. According to the newspaper, the U.S. aircraft carrier Constallation left its temporary mooring in the area of Singapore and is now sailing toward the coast of Iran.

New York Demonstration

LD200610 Moscow TASS in English 0557 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 20, TASS--"Victory for the People of Iran" "USA, Get Out of Iran!" --these were the slogans of a massive demonstration of protest here against the growing U.S. interference in Iran's home affairs. Taking part in it were representatives of progressive American organizations as well as Iranian students under training in the USA. Talking with newsmen, one of the Iranian student leaders, A. Ahya, strongly criticised the policy of the American administration vis-a-vis Iran. He pointed out that the United States is doing its utmost to direct the development of events in that country into a channel advantageous to it. The Iranian people, he stressed, shall decide its country's future itself, without foreign interference.

Khomeyni Interview

LD201838 Moscow TASS in English 1813 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, January 20, TASS--The Iranian political and religious leader Ayatollah Khomeyni gave an interview to the newspaper AS-SAFIR. He pointed out again that there is "the possibility of a military coup in Iran of the type of military coups that happen often in Latin America."

"The United States, he said, can do such a stupid thing. But Washington must be aware that this action is more dangerous for it than it is for us. The rising revolutionary people of Iran will never put up with such a plot."

The present struggle in Iran against the shah's regime is being conducted in the interests of broad sections of the Iranian people, Khomeyni went on. And though it is headed by religious leaders, they do not seek to form of them political cadres for governing the country. But this does not mean, however, that we shall leave the room for pro-American leaders.

According to Khomeyni, the army is still on the shah's side. However, I am confident, he said, that at heart many military not support the shah. Therefore, he cannot always rely on the military. There were already examples when military forces took the side of the people and the revolution.

Iran will not play the role of a policeman in the region, the opposition's leader said. The forces that plundered our oil wealth, that made us buy armaments from them and that set up their military bases in our lands turned Iran into the gendarme of the region in their own self-seeking interests. We hold that "security"--American style was ensured by the shah to the detriment of the interests of the Iranian people. We are able to protect ourselves. We believe that questions of security of the Persian Gulf must be decided by the peoples of the region. Let the Iranian people choose its government. It will be the first condition for stabilisation of the situation in the country.

Khomeyni said that Iran will not participate in any military blocs since they contradict the interests of peoples. We shall be conducting the policy of non-alignment and friendship with other peoples, of non-interference in their internal affairs. We respect freedom and independence of other countries and we shall not allow anyone to threaten our security, to interfere in our internal affairs. Our relations with great powers, Khomeyni stressed, will be based on mutual respect of each other's sovereignty. We shall not side with one power against another.

Touching upon the relations with Israel, he said: Israel is our enemy not only for the reason that it seized Palestinian lands and tramples underfoot the rights of our Arab friends, but also for the reason that it committed a number of grave crimes against the Iranian people. The torture that was practiced by the secret political police SAVAK was made with the use of Israeli torture implements. Israeli "experts" and "instructors" trained the shah's supporters in methods of the struggle against Iranian patriots, participated directly in violence and brutalities.

Khomeyni condemned sharply the Egyptian-Israeli separate collusion and stressed that "peace-Camp David style" is a crime against all Islamic people and merely leads to the reinforcement of Israel's aggressive potential. Therefore, it is our sacred duty to conduct the struggle against As-Sadat and his flunkeys and against Israel.

Touching upon Iran's internal problems, Khomeyni said that the shah's regime absolutely ignored problems of the country's industrial development and was unable to solve even such problems as supplying the population with drinking water, with electricity and the transportation problem. Huge reserves of oil were used in the interests of oil monopolies, not in the interests of the Iranian people.

The present regime, he said in conclusion, accuses us that we are, allegedly, against women's freedom. But there were always many women among inmates of the shah's prisons. To refute the shah's lie it is enough to look now at the streets of Iranian town: Hundreds of thousands of Iranian women participate in the anti-shah demonstrations.

Struggle Will Continue

LD201943 Moscow TASS in English 1927 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Washington, January 20, TASS--The Iranian people is determined to continue the struggle for the implementation of its democratic demands and liquidation of the shah's regime--such a conclusion can be drawn from the demonstrations of an unprecedented scope that were held in Iran yesterday.

Leader of Islamic opposition Ayatollah Khomeyni said: "We shall assume the power as this is demanded by participants in the referendum in the streets of Iran, and yesterday's mass manifestations are precisely such a nation-wide referendum. They showed that the Iranian people rejects the shah, his dynasty and the Bakhtiar government he appointed and demands proclamation of the republic."

The New York TIMES reports that Bakhtiar, despite the obvious hostility of the majority of the population, continues insisting on keeping the post of the prime minister. Bakhtiar threatened that if Khomeyni tries to form an alternative government he will tell commanders of military units that they are no longer bound by the commitment to keep from political actions. In other words, the New York TIMES explains, they will have the right to stage a military coup. Representative of the U.S. Department of State Thomas Reston confirmed at a press conference that Deputy Commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in Europe General Robert Huyser is still in Iran.

Analysing the United States manoeuvres around the events in Iran, the Parisian LE FIGARO writes that, Washington, in all likelihood, stakes on worsening of the situation in Iran. "The White House, the newspaper says, expects that chaos will soon sweep Iran and it will then be possible to regain control with the use of the military. All the shah will then have to do is to return with triumph to "calm" his troops and to "save" the people.

In this connection, commentators write that the shah of Iran is in no hurry to leave the Middle East. His departure from the Egyptian town of Aswan is being put off. Moreover, he decided to visit Morocco on his way to the United States. Staying close to Iran, he follows the developments attentively.

Preparing for the military coup, the United States tries to weaken the opposition, to split its ranks. U.S. representatives of late stepped up contacts with opposition leaders. Though Washington tries to emphasize in every way "unofficial" character of these meetings, this does not change the essence of the matter. "The White House, just as the Elysee Palace, writes the French L'HUMANITE, speculates openly on the lack of unity in the Iranian national movement. Pretending to be concerned over religious fanaticism, they actually pin great hopes on manifestations of intolerance to communists that it generates".

FRANCE PRESSE reported that contacts between some opposition leaders, representatives of the Bakhtiar government and the army command take place now. Ayatollah Khomeyni's assistant, Ghotbzadeh, precluded any possibility of such contacts and said that there can be no compromise between the opposition and the Bakhtiar government.

21 Jan Situation Report

LD220716 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1744 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 21, TASS--The United States is hastily searching for a solution to the crisis in Iran that will fully correspond to Washington's designs regarding that country. As the information agencies report, the White House and the State Department are presently studying all the variants, such as supporting the present, shah-appointed government of Bakhtiar, flirting with the opposition or organizing a military coup. The following demands are being presented to Iran: It should "preserve a friendly position with the United States," continue to deliver oil for the West and, mainly, be "a source of stability" in accordance with U.S. policy in the Near East.

"At present the main goal of the U.S. Government is getting opposition leader Khomeyni, Bakhtiar, the Iranian military and others to restore peace and preserve noncommunist control over Iran," said a State Department spokesman who pointed out, at the same time, that "the possibility of a military coup is not to be ruled out yet."

The Washington POST writes that "the most likely outcome will be a military takeover, but this depends on what the United States undertakes and when."

Not refraining from making imperialist claims on Iran or from interfering in its internal affairs, the United States is at the same time banking on other countries in that region. Referring to a State Department spokesman's statement, UPI has reported that the United States has invited Crown Prince Fahd, first deputy prime minister of Saudi Arabia, to Washington "for very important talks," connected with the events in Iran and their effect on the Persian Gulf and the Near East. The "vacuum" left by the shah in that area, according to the spokesman, "must be filled by other countries." Clearly, it is a question of handing over this role to Saudi Arabia which has rich oil reserves and is closely linked to the United States.

In connection with the U.S. intrigues around the events in Iran, Washington journalistic circles are once again raising the theme of the American military and reconnaisance stations that are stationed near the Soviet frontiers. According to the American press, U.S. Secretary of Defense H. Brown has stated that the equipment that is in Iran to carry out reconnaisance operations against the Soviet Union is now being speedily dismantled and dispatched for deployment in Turkey.

The situation remains exceptionally tense in Iran itself. Commenting on it, the British SUNDAY TELEGRAPH writes that relations between the Regency Council formed by the shah, the Bakhtiar government, the army and the opposition are of a "complex and highly unpredictable nature and fraught with the danger of much bloodshed." There has been a split in the Regency Council: Two of its members, it is reported from Tehran, today handed in their resignations, which have not yet, however, been accepted.

Bazargan, who is prominent in the antishah movement, said in an interview with an American radio company that an "Islamic republic," on which the opposition is insisting, may be proclaimed "in the next 2 to 3 weeks" and that the composition of the "Islamic Revolutionary Council" will be announced in several days, after which "a provisional government" will be formed. Thereafter, Bakhtiar will leave his post and, according to Bazargan, he and Khomeyni have already reached a "tacit agreement" on this.

It has been confirmed that Khomeyni, who recently stated that he will be returning from exile to Iran "in a matter of a few days," will be returning to Tehran on 26 January.

Khomeyni urged members of the Regency Council to resign and deputies of the Iranian Parliament to give up their seats. Following these calls, Bakhtiar urgently summoned the National Security Council to discuss "overall security issues." The council includes the leaders of the armed forces, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the police.

If the situation of the Bakhtiar government is becoming more complicated under pressure of the continuing demonstrations by the popular masses, then contradictions about the path which the country is to choose in the "post-shah period" are in turn becoming more and more manifest in the opposition. Reports have been coming in from a number of Iranian towns about clashes between supporters of the various opposition factions. A powerful demonstration held in Tehran today by progressive students in which about 10,000 people participated was attacked by rightwing extremists on more than one occasion. Pro-shah elements are becoming more active. Yesterday, as a result of clashes between them and those supporting the overthrow of the monarchy, seven people were killed in Shirvan and three in Quchan.

The anti-shah demonstrations that are continuing throughout the country have a sharp anti-American bias just as before. A strike has been declared in Tehran at the air force helicopter repair works. The strikers have demanded that 1,500 American specialists be kicked out of the works and that all contracts with the Pentagon and other American departments be cancelled.

Ferment is growing in the army. UPI, referring to the Tehran press, reports that about 4,000 officers of the Iranian Air Force have staged a hunger protest demanding that all American military advisers be expelled from the country. They have also stated that they will not support an attempt by the army command to stage a military coup. The agency views the air force officers' action as being "the most serious manifestation of discontent in the armed forces."

The resignation of Moniri, deputy war minister, was announced today. No reasons were given. It has also been announced that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has recalled Iranian ambassadors to the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia as well as the general consuls in New York, San Francisco and Karachi. Prior to this, Iranian ambassadors to eight other countries, including the United States, were recalled.

INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE DELAYING MIDEAST TREATY

LD191217 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 79 p 5 LD

[Yu. Glukhov article: "Camp David: When the Dust Has Settled"]

[Text] The United States is making another attempt to complete the formalization [oformleniye] of the Israeli-Egyptian separate deal. Roving American Ambassador A. Atherton has been sent to the Near East with this aim. His mission, according to the New York TIMES, is to prepare the conditions for a resumption of the talks between Israel and Egypt.

Probably no event in the Near East in the last few years has been accompanied with such overblown publicity as Washington's persistent forcing through of the separate version of a Near East settlement. Last year's Camp David talks, at which the notorious "frameworks for peace"--or to be more precise, frameworks for separate deals between Cairo and Tel Aviv--were elaborated at U.S. dictation, were elevated to the rank of "historic."

But when the dust of the self-congratulation and propaganda ballyhoo settled and the outlines of the compact concluded behind the Arab peoples' back, counter to their will and in defiance of their interests became clear, it transpired that the participants in Camp David had failed to mislead either the Arab or the world public. While the pan-Arab summit conference convened in Baghdad, which condemned the Camp David accords, demonstrated the Arab peoples' implacability toward the policy of separate deals, the UN General Assembly session, which ended recently, demonstrated the full extent of the isolation of the accords' initiators in the international arena.

As a result of the discussion of the Near East problem at the General Assembly, it was reaffirmed with particular cogency that peace in this explosive region must be sought on the paths of an all-embracing settlement taking into account the interests of all the sides involved in that conflict. Despite American diplomacy's opposition, the overwhelming majority of UN members supported the resolution favoring such an approach. Thus, an appreciable blow was struck against the Camp David agreements.

The resolution adopted notes that a "just and lasting settlement of the Near East problem must be based on an all-embracing solution under UN aegis, taking into account every aspect of the Arab-Israeli conflict." Until Israel withdraws from all the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories and the Palestinian people achieve and exercise their inalienable national rights, this document says, no universal, just and lasting Near East peace under which all that region's countries and peoples can live in peace within secure borders will be achieved.

The UN General Assembly again pointed out the need to utilize such generally recognized international machinery as the Geneva peace conference.

Against the background of unilateral U.S. actions in advocating Camp David-style sub rosa [kuluarnyy] decisions, the General Assembly's emphasis on the need for an international conference under the co-chairmanship of the two great powers signifies a condemnation of the methods of behind-the-scenes bargaining and a recognition of the importance of the positive contribution made by the Soviet Union, which consistently and firmly upholds the principles of just and lasting peace in the Near East.

The work of the General Assembly demonstrated the strengthening of the PLO's positions and the growth of its political prestige as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. In a separate resolution on the Palestinian question, the General Assembly called for the PLO's participation, on equal terms with the other sides, in all discussions and conferences on the Near East held under the UN aegis. Thus, the UN General Assembly dealt a blow to U.S. and Israeli attempts to exclude the PLO from the process of Near East settlement and to ignore the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

It should be noted that the decisions of the UN General Assembly session reflect in many respects the principles enshrined in the 1 October 1977 Soviet-American joint statement. By voting against them in such meager company as Israel, Canada and Guatemala, the United States not only challenged the international community but also cast doubt on its loyalty to its own commitments and to the principles which it had itself approved.

The resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly helped to expose the essence of the separate deals and showed once again that cardinal settlement problems remain outside their framework. The UN resolutions demand the liquidation of all territorial seizures by Israel, which occupied more than 60,000 square km of Arab land during the 1967 "six-day war." It includes the Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank of the Jordan, the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights. The Egyptian-Israeli version of the settlement only envisages the liberation of Sinai, and that under conditions of limited Egyptian sovereignty. As for the other territories, the Israeli occupation is effectively consolidated there.

The UN General Assembly fully supported the Palestinian people's rights, including the right to national independence, but the separate plan pushed by Washington only envisages curtailed autonomy for the Palestinians whereby Israeli forces and semi-military settlements will remain on their territory. It ignores the PLO.

Supporting the Arabs' demands, the UN General Assembly came out in favor of the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Near East and in favor of extending detente to this explosive region. "...The Arab people's struggle for the return of their land captured by Israel and for the Palestinians' right to set up their own state by no means contradicts the interests of detente. Nor do the actions of those who support the Arabs' just demands," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted in response to TIME magazine's questions. "Those who are on the side of the aggressor, encouraging its expansionist ambitions, are acting contrary to the interests of detente."

Under pressure from the international public and the active position of the majority of Arab countries, supported by the socialist community, the separate talks were interrupted and the signing of the treaty between Egypt and Israel planned for 17 December last year did not take place.

Encountering widespread resistance to their plans, the initiators of the separate deals were forced to resort to maneuvers. At the General Assembly session Egypt did not, for example, go along with the United States and oppose the other countries. Then came Cairo's amendments proposing the so-called "linkage" of the normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations with a "settlement" in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Cairo was trying, as before, to create a semblance of a stage-by-stage settlement in which the Egyptian problem is allegedly solved at the first stage, then the Palestinian problem and so forth. But the proposed "autonomy" recipe for the Palestinians is a fictitious settlement, and Egypt's moves are camouflage for a splittist course.

The United States is also maneuvering. Supporting Cairo's purely formal demands, it is seeking to win popularity in the Near East, assuring the region's peoples of its "pro-Arab orientation." At the same time, pressure is being brought to bear on such Arab regimes as Saudi Arabia. Washington was irritated by the fact that, as the New York TIMES writes: "The Saudis have apparently moved from a position of noninterference and perhaps even tacit support, at the time of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem, to a position of more open dissatisfaction."

In order to pressurize Riyadh they are now making use of both outright insults (the Washington POST, for instance, calls Saudi Arabia an "oil colossus with feet of clay") and intimidations based on the "communist threat" and Iranian events. In this connection, as in Iran, the United States is trying to adopt the role of uninvited "guardian" of sovereign and independent countries. According to the New York TIMES, J. Carter's strategy "has the aim of showing America's readiness to give support in order to maintain the viability of other pro-western regimes in that region."

In connection with the failure of American policy in Iran, Washington's planned Near East settlement provides for the creation of all alliance between Israel and Arab reaction. But in any case Tel Aviv is given priority and the Arab conciliators are given a subordinate role. "No country in the Persian Gulf region, not even Saudi Arabia," the New York TIMES notes coldly, "has the population or sufficiently qualified cadres to take on Iran's mission in insuring security there. As a result, analysts are seeking somebody for the role of that 'second support' a little further from the center of events, and certain Defense Department analysts are asserting that Israel, with its highly combat-capable armed forces, is acquiring considerably more strategic weight as a result. This is causing certain Pentagon figures to assert that at present it is senseless to put new diplomatic pressure on Israel." Thus, Tel Aviv has made use of the pause in the talks to put its price up and toughen its demands.

Imperialist maneuvers to push through a separate settlement are continuing. The United States would like to make the present state in the Egyptian-Israeli talks the final stage. But Washington and those under its tutelage have not succeeded in breaking the Arab people's vigilance. The policy of separate deals and Cairo's capitulatory course are meeting with sharp and unanimous condemnation at the 14th Palestine National Council session now being held in Damascus. The very fact that the separate bargaining has been going on for more than 2 years is highly indicative. It shows that united actions by the Arab countries, supported by the socialist states, and the opinion and will of the world's peoples are capable of blocking the implementation of dangerous plans.

ISRAEL RESUMES BOMBARDMENT OF LEBANESE REFUGEE CAMPS

LD192058 Moscow TASS in English 1901 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, January 19, TASS--The Israeli artillery this afternoon resumed the bombardment of the vicinities of Tyre. The fire was concentrated on Palestinian refugee camps, located not far from the town. The Israeli military used heavy artillery. There are casualties among the population. The residents are leaving the town.

Weizman Comments

LD192056 Moscow TASS in English 1857 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Amman, January 19, TASS--Israeli Defence Minister E. Weizman, today addressed brazen threats against Lebanon and the Palestine resistance movement. Speaking at a press conference in Tel Aviv, he said Israel will continue military actions in south Lebanon, similar to the operations carried out last night.

As is known, last night Israeli mechanized army units crossed the Lebanese border and intruded into its territory, while Israeli airborne troops were landed from helicopters near the south Lebanese city of An-Nabatiyah under artillery cover. The aggressive intrusion was preceded by an hour-long artillery preparation during which south Lebanese villages and Palestine refugee camps were subjected to savage shelling, while Israeli warships were coursing Lebanese territorial waters and heavily shelling its southern coast.

The Israeli defence minister stated cynically that Tel Aviv had no intention to bother with the political consequences of such actions.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON LEBANON REPORTED

LD210628 Moscow TASS in English 0907 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 20, TASS--TASS correspondent Valentin Vasilets reports:

The Israeli policy of aggression and international terrorism, Tel Aviv's cynical disregard for the will of the international community were strongly condemned at the Security Council session convened to examine the question of reviewing the mandate of the U.N. interim force in Lebanon. The report tabled at the Security Council by U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim places responsibility for the continuing tension in the south of Lebanon on Israel and its direct agents--the anti-government armed detachments. The correctness of such a conclusion has been once again borne out by the fresh provocations launched by Israeli military--the barbarous raid with the use of the air force and tanks against Lebanon's populated localities and Palestinian refugee camps, as a result of which many civilians died.

This raid is a "criminal and vile act of aggression against Lebanon," said Abdallah al-Bishara, permanent representative of Kuwait to the United Nations Organization. He described Tel Aviv's actions as an impudent challenge to the prestige of the United Nations Organization. The south of Lebanon, he said, has turned into northern Israel, as it is in the hands of the puppets, who are trained, supplied with arms and controlled by Tel Aviv.

Abdallah al-Bishara criticized the policy of the United States giving military and political support to Israel, thus enabling Tel Aviv to continue its aggressive course.

We accuse Israel of attempts at perpetuating the occupation of southern Lebanon through its mercenaries in that area, said Lebanon's permanent representative to the United Nations Organization, Ghassan Tuwayni.

Tel Aviv's aim, he said, consists not only in preventing the restoration of Lebanon's sovereignty over the country's south, but also in destabilizing the state of Lebanon, thus jeopardizing peace and security all over the Middle East. G. Tuwayni called upon the Security Council for taking urgent and effective measures so as to put an end to Israel's claims.

Condemnation of Israeli provocations was also expressed at the Security Council meeting by delegates of Czechoslovakia, Bangladesh, Zambia, Nigeria and other states.

USSR Permanent Representative to the United Nations Organization Oleg Troyanovskiy said that the Security Council cannot pass over the crying facts of aggression and the crude violation of the sovereignty of the state of Lebanon. Israel and its backers are making every effort in order to perpetuate the seizure of the Arab territories. The policy of separate deals pursued by Israel and Egypt with the active participation of the United States encourages Tel Aviv to attempts at consolidating the results of its aggression against the Arab countries.

There is a way to establishing a lasting peace in the Middle East, the Soviet representative stressed, although approaches to it are considerably blocked now by those, who side-tracked from it in a quest for unilateral advantages. This is the way of a comprehensive settlement which would enable the Arab countries to retrieve the lands captured from them in 1967 and enable the Arab people of Palestine to exercise its legitimate national rights, including the right to self-determination and creation of its own state, and to all states of that area--to use the guaranteed right to safe existence and development.

We hold, Oleg Troyanovskiy said, that the time has long come for passing over to effective measures for the implementation of the decisions taken by the Security Council in connection with the Israeli aggression against Lebanon. It is an open secret that this is prevented in the first place by the stand of the USA maintaining "special relations" with Israel.

The Security Council has decided to prolong the mandate of the U.N. interim force in Lebanon by five months, i.e. till June 19, 1979.

PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSION REVIEWED

LD171830 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 17 Jan 79 LD

[Vladimir Bilyakov commentary]

[Text] The 14th session of the Palestine National Council is being held in Damascus. Our observer Vladimir Bilyakov writes:

The venue for the session is indicative of the changes that have taken place in the Middle East since the 13th session of the council 2 years ago. That session, like nearly all other sessions, was held in Cairo. But today, the Egyptian regime, which has embarked on the path of separate plots with the Zionists and also the path of capitulation to the Zionists, constitutes a threat to the just struggle being waged by the Palestinian Arab people. In response to this threat, the Palestine resistance movement has consolidated its ties with the progressive Arab countries, within the framework of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. It is quite natural, therefore, that the present session of the Palestine National Council should take place in Damascus. Participants in the session paid tribute to the memory of the late Algerian President Houari Boumediene, one of the founders of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

Many guests are attending the session. They include representatives of the progressive Arab forces, national liberation movements and socialist countries, including a Soviet delegation led by the chairman of the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity Organization, Mirza Ibragimov. This is a clear indication of the vast international support enjoyed by the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people.

At the top of the agenda is discussion of the political program for national unity and ways of continuing the success of the struggle of the Palestinians in the new complicated circumstances. In a statement to Radio Moscow, PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar said that the strengthening of the ranks of the Palestine resistance movement and the consolidation of its alliance with its friends, primarily the Soviet Union, assume great importance in the existing situation. Palestine National Council Chairman Khalid al-Fahhum also dealt with the same issue when he opened the session.

The friends of the Palestinian people have recently reiterated their support for this people. This was mentioned by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad when he addressed the session. In a statement to magazine TIME, published yesterday, Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev pointed out that the Palestinians' struggle for the right to set up their independent national state does not conflict with international detente.

Political Program Adopted

LD191220 Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Damascus, January 19, TASS--Delegates of the 14th session of the National Council of Palestine under way here unanimously adopted a political programme of national unity worked out jointly by all organizations of the Palestinian resistance movement.

The struggle to thwart the Camp David accords, the document says, is now the main task of peoples of Arab countries, of all progressive and patriotic forces. The programme describes the actions of the United States directed against the Palestinian people and the Arab national liberation movemen' as outright aggression. The document stresses the need of further consolidation of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The adoption of the programme means an important step along the road of further strengthening of unity of the Palestinian resistance movement.

NATIONAL PROGRESSIVE PARTY HEADQUARTERS RAIDED

LD211334 Moscow TASS in English 0635 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, January 20, TASS--A new act of arbitrariness was staged by the Egyptian authorities with regard to the National Progressive (left) Party.

Last night, agents of the security bodies and police broke into the building in which the headquarters of the National Progressive Party are situated and wreaked havoc there. Typewriters and rotary presses on which party documents and periodicals had been printed were confiscated during the search. The latest issue of the weekly bulletin AL-TAKADDUM was also confiscated. This bulletin was being published instead of the newspaper AL-AHALI which was being regularly confiscated by the authorities since last summer.

No one has any doubt that this action was staged in connection with a statement circulated here by the National Progressive Party concerning the arrival of the shah of Iran in Aswan. The Egyptian people, the document says, refuse to play host to those who are rejected by their own people and regard the shah of Iran as an unbidden guest.

It is also remarkable that the raid on the headquarters of the left party was preceded by the authorities' ban on the holding of a meeting in tribute to the memory of Gamal 'Abd an-Nsair.

RHODESIAN HOPES FOR U.S. SUPPORT DISCUSSED

LD191244 Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Viktor Moskvin commentary]

[Text] Rhodesia's Foreign Affairs Minister Pieter Van der Byl said on Thursday that his country would seek a better understanding with the United States. Radio Moscow observer Viktor Moskvin writes in this connection.

The statement came after Great Britain had announced that a special survey of the prospects for an all-party conference on Rhodesia had revealed that it was not the right time for it and that the talks would probably fail. The idea behind the conference is to preserve Ian Smith in power in some way and to create such a regime in Rhodesia that could be controlled by Rhodesia's whites. Small wonder that, at the beginning of the year, a spokesman for the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front in Rhodesia condemned plans to preserve Smith in power and said that the downfall of the regime is around the corner. The Rhodesian foreign affairs minister blamed London for the lack of resolution and principle, and said his country was turning for support to Washington. While he did not elaborate as to what kind of resolution and principle Rhodesia expects to find in Washington, his statement is significant. It looks like it is a desperate cry for help or a last-ditch attempt to stay afloat; and the cry for help is addressed to Washington. Why? There may be various reasons. Perhaps in the opinion of the Rhodesian regime, the United States has more postwar experience in clandestine operations in Africa than any other Western country has. The United States has also enough experience in keeping in power antipopular regimes in other parts of the world, either by giving them generous military aid or by assisting them diplomatically. London can hardly be credited with a highly-principled policy towards the Smith regime. Suffice it to recall the recent scandal involving the violations of an oil embargo against Rhodesia. Oil shipments were carried out on a regular basis by certain British companies, with the knowledge of the British Government, as it has turned out. But as far as large-scale interference in the internal affairs of the African countries is concerned, Britain is no match for the United States, and in that sense the Rhodesian foreign affairs minister is absolutely right when he says Rhodesia will be seeking American support for the regime.

MOZAMBIQUE'S ANSWERS TO RHODESIAN PROVOCATIONS REPORTED

LD211430 Moscow TASS in English 1136 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Maputo, January 20, TASS--In answer to the aggressive sorties and permanent provocations by the Rhodesian military, the people of Mozambique guided by the FRELIMO Party is displaying unity, high organization and determination to give any time a worthy rebuff to the intrigues of foreign and home reaction. Rallies are being held at enterprises and institutions, in collective villages, addressing which working people declare their readiness to defend their homeland and make their contribution to the cause of strengthening the country's independence. Donations are coming daily to the defence fund from work collectives, organizations, workers of the countryside and private persons. People's militia detachments are organized all over the republic. Acting together with the people's liberation forces of Mozambique, they ensure order and security at enterprises, institutions and residential neighbourhoods. Special military-political courses have opened for members of the people's militia in the capital. All attempts at economic sabotage, financial machinations, unlawful taking of capital out of the country are resolutely suppressed. A determined rebuff is given to military provocations of the unlawful Smith regime.

ZAPU STATEMENT CIRCULATED AT OAU MEETING

LD191724 Moscow TASS in English 1445 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Dar es Salaam, January 19, TASS--The struggle for the freedom of our motherland will be continued until a victory is achieved, says a statement issued by the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe. The statement was circulated among the participants in the session of the liberation committee of the Organisation of African Unity in the capital of Tanzania.

The liberation struggle continuously gains in scope, the statement points out. The combat units of patriotic forces win new and new victories and are now in control of most of the country's areas.

In these conditions the illegal authorities of Salisbury are making desperate attempts to delay the inevitable collapse of the anti-popular regime. Their aggressive actions against neighbouring independent states--Botswana, Zambia and Mozambique--became frequent. Wartime laws are in force practically all over the country's territory. Punitive troops practise increasingly bloody reprisals against peaceful population.

The situation that is developing in the country, however. is not in favour of the ruling regime which is even incapable of implementing its own decisions. Smith's promise to bring about an "internal settlement" by the end of 1978 failed to materialize while Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau--the puppets and betrayers collaborating with him--finally exposed themselves in the eyes of the people.

The Patriotic Front sharply criticised the neocolonialist policy of the West in the Rhodesian question. The people of Zimbabwe are resolutely rejecting the USA's and Britain's attempts to impose on them a Rhodesian "Camp David" and any talks with the enemy which is sustaining a defeat.

OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE DECISIONS RELEASED

LD210632 Moscow TASS in English 1405 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

["Unanimous Support for the Patriots"--TASS headline]

[Text] Dar es Salaam, January 20, TASS--Independent Africa has reaffirmed its determination to wipe out in the continent the last bastions of imperialism and racialism. This is the main content of the decisions taken at the scheduled session of the liberation committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which was held here. Its delegates unanimously condemned various forms of Western interference in the continent and demanded that the USA, Britain, the FRG, and their allies end political, economic and military support for the South African Republic and Rhodesia.

The OAU liberation committee welcomed the successes of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO), the Patriots of the South African Republic and noted that in the present conditions genuine independence can be achieved only through stepping up armed struggle. It called upon the world public for supporting their righteous cause in every way possible.

Addressing the closing session, the chairman of the session, Zambian representative Silvizia, condemned on behalf of all participants the criminal attacks by the unlawful Smith regime against the "frontline" African states. It has been decided to convene in the near future an emergency session of the OAU defense committee, which is to proclaim that an attack against one of its member-states will be viewed as an aggression against all the OAU member-countries. He expressed Africa's profound concern over the outrages by foreign mercenaries in Rhodesia and addressed the governments of the USA, France, the FRG, Britain, Australia and Canada with the demand that they put an end to the recruiting, training and arming of mercenaries in their territory. The chairman of the session called for strengthening international solidarity with the recognized vanguard of the Namibian people--SWAPO--and expressed firm conviction that this organization will score a convincing victory in the course of genuinely free elections.

NAMIBIA SITUATION, WESTERN, S. AFRICAN 'MANEUVERS' VIEWED

LD191209 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[S. Nikonov article: "Namibia's Patriots"]

[Text] Judging from foreign news agencies' latest reports the Pretoria authorities plan to speed up the strengthening of the puppet regime they illegally set up in Namibia. Trying to achieve international recognition for the puppets, who are recognized by no one, the Republic of South Africa is maneuvering, forming alliances with its Western patrons, resorting to a variety of devices, and trying to use UN channels to cover up its insidious schemes. The racists' aim is to maintain their supremacy in occupied Namibia with the help of obedient henchmen.

As is known, the basis for a solution of the Namibia problem envisaged by earlier UN resolutions is an immediate end to the Republic of South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia and the immediate and complete withdrawal of its troops and police and its administration from the occupied territory. This lofty organ's documents stress that after the racists have gone power must be transferred to the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO), which has waged a long and heroic struggle against the invaders and is recognized by the United Nations and the OAU as the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

However, such a just solution of the problem was unacceptable to the racists and their accomplices. For them a victory by the SWAPO-led national liberation movement means an end to the predatory exploitation of Namibia's natural resources and the cruel exploitation of its people. Doing everything they can to keep the country in colonial bondage, they are resorting to any crime against Namibia's freedom-fighters and spreading the shameful policy and practice of apartheid to Namibian territory. This misanthropic policy has naturally placed the Republic of South Africa in international isolation which is tightening increasingly around Pretoria. The racists' Western sponsors have not deserted their partners in the exploitation of southern Africa's riches. At any rate it would appear to be no mere chance that the United States, the FRG, France, Britain and Canada, whose close ties with the Republic of South Africa are common knowledge, tried to create the illusion in the Security Council that a "settlement" of the Namibia problem was possible but along different lines suiting Pretoria better than those contained in previous UN resolutions. The five-power plan stipulates that not only UN personnel but also the occupationists' old repressive apparatus--their troops, police and administrator general--should be present on Namibian territory during the transition period.

The "five's" proposal was a convenient screen for Pretoria behind which fruitless negotiations between the plan's initiators and the authorities in the Republic of South Africa took place, and less noticeably, preparations proceeded for the so-called elections in Namibia. During these unprecedented "elections," disregarding the UN decisions and the world public's protests, the occupationists insured the "election" of a puppet party--the so-called Democratic Turnhalle Alliance. In the resulting situation of brutal terror and mass arrests of progressive Africans SWAPO supporters were unable to openly protest against the election farce cooked up by the racists.

For its part the UN General Assembly resolutely condemned Pretoria's decision to foist on Namibia a so-called "internal settlement" designed to give the impression that the puppet regime held power and to create a semblance of legality, and also declared both the "elections" themselves and the results to be invalid.

Unfortunately, the correct conclusions were not drawn from all this. Informing the UN Secretary General the other day of the Republic of South Africa's agreement to hold the elections in Namibia again, this time under UN auspices, the racist empire's foreign minister threw down a new challenge to the world community. Marking back to the five-power plan, the racists declared their refusal to withdraw their troops from Namibia. They also announced that their administrator general was to keep all his legislative and administrative power throughout the transition period. Citing a request from their unrecognized Windhoek puppets the occupationists brazenly demanded that the United Nations review its attitude to SWAPO and publicly dissociate itself from that organization.

There is no doubt that it was the Western powers' hypocritical attitude to the Namibia problem that made Pretoria decide to adopt such a defiant stance. Let us remember how adroitly they played up to the racists in their first election show, in equipping the army of occupation with modern weapons and in creating their own nuclear industry...It seems that Pretoria anticipates assistance of this kind from the West in the next round of this unseemly game too.

The maneuvers of the racists and their patrons who seek to keep Namibia under occupation are creating an urgent need for effective steps to be taken for the world public's consistent defense of the Namibian people's interests and for active support for SWAPO's generally recognized role in insuring its motherland's independence. Unswervingly and strictly observing previously introduced UN sanctions against the Republic of South Africa, as well as broadening them so as to organize total international isolation and boycotting of the racist Pretorian regime is still a reliable way to bring about an immediate end to the occupation of Namibia.

TASS, MAURITANIAN PRESS AGENCY SIGN AGREEMENT

LD211438 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Nouakchott, January 20, TASS--An agreement has been signed here on cooperation in the field of exchange of information services between TASS and the Mauritanian Press Agency (AMP).

CONTINUING COMMENT ON EVENTS IN KAMPUCHEA

SRV Statement on Cambodia

LD191904 Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, January 19, TASS--The Vietnamese people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam fully back the statement of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea which denounces Beijing's [Peking's] slanderous allegations over the developments in Kampuchea. It is inadmissible that the U.N. Security Council should make it possible for its rostrum to be used by the Chinese ruling circles in a bid to realize their sinister designs, says a statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, that has been published here.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the statement stresses, highly appreciates the fact that for the sake of justice, the interests of the Kampuchean people, for the sake of peace and stability in South East Asia, the Soviet Union resolutely cut short Beijing's interference into Kampuchea's internal affairs and the attempts to smear Vietnam.

The Beijing leaders used the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique for the export of "Cultural Revolution" in Kampuchea as a tool for suppressing the Kampuchean people, for undermining peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The Chinese ruling circles spurred on the Phnom Penh clique to intensify the frontier war against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, as a result of which committed were numerous barbarous crimes against the Vietnamese people. The people and the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam exerted every effort towards a peaceful and reasonable solution of the conflict through negotiations, but that clique turned down all proposals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

In such a situation Vietnam, just as any other country, which bears responsibility for the destiny of its nation, was compelled to use its right to self-defence, resolutely giving a rebuff to the aggressors. This fully corresponds to the U.N. Charter and international laws.

The people and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Kampuchea under the guidance of the United Front for National Salvation of Kampuchea, the document points out, have attained a historical victory by overthrowing the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary grouping. The Vietnamese people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam fully support the just cause of the Kampuchean people and express confidence that the people of Kampuchea will overcome all obstacles and will successfully build a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral, non-aligned, socialism-bound Kampuchea. The frontier war between Vietnam and Kampuchea is over. The Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam jointly with the People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea will discuss and agree on the necessary measures aimed at mutual assistance and support in the construction and defence of their countries in accordance with the striving for peace and stability of all countries of Southeast Asia. Friendship and solidarity between the peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea are unbreakable, the expanionist and hegemonic desires of Beijing's reactionaries will inevitably suffer a collapse, stresses the statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

'Rejoinder' to VJESNIK Article

LD211614 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] On the subject of a certain article in VJESNIK, here is a rejoinder by TASS observer (Vladimir Romanov).

The Yugoslav press has lately been conducting a crude propaganda campaign against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. This campaign is being linked to the events in Kampuchea. Typical of this campaign was an article published in VJESNIK. It says that the friends of Vietnam paid no attention to warnings that hegemonism, not only on an Indochinese, but also on a wider scale, was awakening in that country. It was difficult for the friends of Vietnam to believe that a country that had been the victim of imperialism for long years could several years later turn into a hegemonistic force toward its weaker neighbors, VJESNIK continues.

These phrases repeat word for word what is being said in Beijing [Peking], and it is clear what circles the VJESNIK editorial office borrowed them from.

Evidently, the same circles (?are behind) the fact that the article says not a word about the sway held in Kampuchea for several years by the bloody Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, supported by 20,000 so-called Chinese advisers. This regime caused enormous damage to the Kampuchean people, turned the country into one big prison, torture chamber and concentration camp, and destroyed almost 3 million people.

But all this is scrupulously kept quiet by the newspaper, in the same way as it keeps quiet about the fact that daily provocations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam were carried out under the Pol Pot regime. The actions on the Kampuchean-Vietnamese border were supplemented by provocations which were carried out, and are being carried out (?now) by the Chinese on their border with Vietnam, including their maritime border.

The question arises: Can Vietnam, which recently underwent an extremely grievous war with U.S. imperialism and which is now striving to defend its peaceful work and rebuild the motherland, literally (?razed) by the aggressor, really be called a country that is conducting a policy of hegemonism, as VJESNIK calls it?

The answer to this question is obvious. Also obvious is the fact that the truth is of no interest to the Yugoslav newspaper. Again echoing propagandists in Beijing here, of course, the editors of the newspaper will be especially indignant--VJESNIK also claims that Vietnam decided to crudely eliminate the regime in Kampuchea which was an obstacle to Vietnamese hegemonism in Indochina, and that it would not have decided on intervention against Kampuchea had it not secured the support of the Soviet Union. In this context, the newspaper quite groundlessly subjects the Soviet Union to attacks, claiming that it had a stake in complicating the PRC's relations with the countries of Indochina and in trying to obtain advantages in the Southeast Asia region, especially after the changes in Japanese-Chinese relations and the normalization of relations between China and the United States.

It will be interesting for the authors of the article, who are probably deliberately confusing the policy of the imperialist powers with that of the socialist countries, to know that the Soviet Union seeks no advantages for itself. The Soviet Union is interested in strengthening peace, and that includes peace in Southeast Asia. That is why it welcomed the creation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, a people's democracy state which is on the path of socialism, peace, friendship, neutrality and nonalinement.

Such are the threads that determine the development of events in the Kampuchea region. No crude insinuations, no matter what their origin, will force the Kampuchean people to deviate from the path of struggle for their independence, true independence, not an illusory one. Having embarked upon that path, Kampuchea should be given support by all who are interested in a genuine and lasting peace in Southeast Asia. It happens to be a fact that it is the growth of such support that provokes the enraged fit of malice among the hegemonists from Beijing. As for the newspaper VJESNIK, however, it should not echo someone else's voice, or confuse real hegemonism with constrained hegemonism.

Moscow Raps PRC

OW191405 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 18 Jan 79 OW

[Tsvetov report from Tokyo: "China's Attempt To Influence Japanese Policies on Indochina"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Sonoda at a meeting with PRC Ambassador Fu Hao turned down a provocative Chinese proposal for joint intervention in Cambodia's domestic affairs.

Even before conclusion of the so-called Japan-China Peace and Friendship Treaty in August last year, Beijing [Peking] made no efforts to conceal the possibility of the treaty being used in joint action against a third country. Today, based on its own interpretation of the treaty, it is attempting to push Japan into action. Deng Yingchao [Teng Ying-chao], wife of the late Premier Zhou Enlai [Chou En-lai] and vice chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, urged Japan's participation in China's subversive activities against the Cambodian people who had toppled the blood-stained Pol Pot dictatorial regime, when she met with a visiting Japanese Diet delegation in Beijing. This sort of Sino-Japanese joint action, she stressed, conforms to the spirit of the treaty between the two nations.

Several days later, Fu Hao made his proposal to Sonoda. He urged Japan to support the pro-Beijing Pol Pot clique overthrown by Cambodian patriots and oppose the Kampuchea National United Front for National Salvation. Fu Hao, like Deng Yingchao, said Japan's obligation stems from the treaty. The Beijing proposal seeks virtually to impose on Japan the role of gendarme to stifle the Cambodian people's desire for freedom.

Japan could not afford to accept the Chinese proposal. Sonoda turned it down, noting that according to his interpretation, the Japan-PRC treaty imposes no obligation on Japan to act jointly with China against hegemonism. The PRC ambassador tried to slander the Cambodian people's liberation struggle with the world "hegemonism." Beijing's behavior proves once again that the section of the Japan-PRC treaty stating that Japan and China "jointly oppose" so-called hegemonism runs counter to the global trend toward detente and the desire of Asian nations including the Japanese for peace and security.

This is not the first time PRC leadership has ever tried to use the Japan-PRC treaty to exert pressure on Japanese policies. It will not be the last time either. How stubbornly Japan can resist this demand from Beijing remains to be seen.

'Propaganda Tools' by PRC

LD211916 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The ASSOCIATED PRESS AGENCY reports a radio station is broadcasting in the Khmer language from a region in China. The broadcast, sponsored by the deposed Pol Pot regime, appealed to the Kampuchian people to rise against their new government. Beijing [Peking] is using these subversive transmissions to create difficulties for the People's Revolutionary Council established as the result of the victory of the Kampuchean patriotic forces over the reactionary regime and to create distrust towards its policies. The reason for such a hostile attitude is obvious. For 3 years, Beijing upheld the regime that created a political system Chinese-style in Kampuchea. With Beijing's blessing, the regime committed crimes against its own nation, annihilated nearly 3 million people and unleashed a border war against Socialist Vietnam.

Now, Beijing is trying to rescue its henchmen. The first step was to summon the Security Council and set it against the new Kampuchean Government. That attempt failed. The Soviet Union vetoed the resolution that distorted the very essence of the events in Kampuchea. Beijing, however, remained unsatisfied. Now there's a radio station broadcasting in the Khmer language. It is reported that Chinese leaders are instigating a guerrilla movement in Kampuchean provinces and preparing to arm it. Norodom Sihanouk, who interceded for the overthrown regime in the Security Council, told the American NEWSWEEK magazine that there was no problem in getting Chinese military aid and in the past few days China's foreign minister, Hua Guefeng [Hua Kuo-feng] and Vice Foreign Minister Deng Xiaping [Teng Hsiao-ping] have openly declared their intention to aid the remnants of Pol Pot's troops in a guerrilla war.

Obviously, Beijing continues its policy of interfering in the Kampucheans' internal affairs and hopes to deprive them of the peace and freedom they are enjoying now. The subversive radio broadcast and aid to the rebel elements are the usual tools the Chinese strategists use in the Southeast Asian countries. Witness the appeals to depose the lawful governments which they broadcast in Burma, Thailand and Malaysia. The press reports on military operations of various dimensions attempted by rebel groups on instructions from Beijing, in various parts of the region. All this and China's experimenting with Kampuchea shows the part assigned to Southeast Asia in the Chinese leaders' political schemes.

'Slanderous' Reporting Cited

LD201824 Moscow TASS in English 1746 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, January 20, TASS--"Vicious slander," this is how the KAMPUCHEAN NEWS AGENCY assesses reports circulated by some organs of the foreign press, reports alleging that "the forces of the regime overthrown by the Kampuchean people seized the port of Kampongsom."

The Kampuchean people has won complete victory, the agency reports. The bloody regime of the clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary has been completely destroyed. The People's Republic of Kampuchea has emerged. The People's Revolutionary Council controls the entire territory of the country. The people are enthusiastically implementing the programme of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation, are building new life.

What is the aim of slanderous allegations concocted abroad? They pursued the aim of misleading the world public opinion and distorting the significance of the glorious victory of the Kampuchean people. The Kampuchean people rallying around the National United Front for National Salvation and the People's Revolutionary Council is determined to uphold its gains, says the KAMPUCHEAN NEWS AGENCY.

Hodding Carter Remarks

LD220734 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Delivering a series of lectures at a college in St Paul, Minnesota, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said that the United States knew about the crimes being committed in Kampuchea by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime, but preferred to ignore them. The reprisals in Kampuchea might be compared with the destruction of the Jewish population by fascist Germany in the thirties. Tens of thousands of people were killed; but since it was happening in Asia, we did not give it any attention, he stated. Hodding Carter admitted that the United States could and should have made more energetic efforts to organize an international campaign of protest against the murders in Kampuchea. Clearly, he stressed, the world community had the means to influence the actions of a country which had doomed a whole people to suffering and death, and clearly this was not done.

Forthcoming Cambodian, SRV Talks

LD220012 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] As reported by the foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea have agreed to hold a summit meeting in the nearest future. The aim of such a meeting is to develop friendly relations and cooperation between Vietnam and Kampuchea. The forthcoming talks between the leader of Vietnam and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea will be of great importance for both countries. Our correspondent Leonid Krichevskiy reports from Hanoi:

It's common knowledge that Vietnam has always striven to solve amicably all the border disputes initiated by the oppressive Pol Pot regime at the instigation of Beijing's [Peking's] authorities. Socialist Vietnam repeatedly launched peaceful proposals but they were rejected. The relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea have now entered a new phase. The foreign policy statements made by the People's Revolutionary Council and the United National Salvation Front clearly show that Kampuchea intends to restore good relations with the neighboring countries, specifically with Vietnam. The speedy elimination of the harmful consequences of the border conflict and making the Vietnamese-Kampuchean border one of peace and friendship meet the vital interests of the Vietnamese and Kampuchean people. The development of mutual friendly links will undoubtedly promote peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The forthcoming talks will also concern economic cooperation. This will be of great importance for Kampuchea, whose economy has been undermined by the ruinous policy of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique. The forthcoming meeting of the Vietnamese and Kampuchean leaders following the Kampuchean patriots' historic victory offers intensive prospects for all-round cooperation between the two countries.

VIETNAM LODGES PROTEST WITH PRC EMBASSY IN HANOI

LD201440 Moscow TASS in English 1312 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

["Rebuff to Provocateurs"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, January 20, TASS-- A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam lodged a resolute protest with the PRC Embassy in Hanoi against the systematic violation of Vietnam's territorial integrity by China's ruling circles. In spite of stern condemnation and strict warnings by the Vietnamese side, the statement stresses, the Chinese authorities are feverishly intensifying armed provocations in border areas. Over the last ten days, the Chinese side instigated more than 50 incidents in the course of which 20 Vietnamese civilians, members of the volunteer corps and frontier guards were killed and 15 injured.

Invectives against Socialist Vietnam are pouring continuously from the powerful loudspeakers installed on the Chinese side, says the statement by the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The Chinese side is also circulating in Vietnam's territory leaflets containing crude slanders against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and threats against the civilian population. These criminal and impudent actions building up tension in the border areas are fresh evidence of the hostile policy of the Chinese ruling circles against Vietnam.

VIETNAMESE NOTE TO PRC CONDEMNS 'HOSTILE' ACT

LD211754 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, January 21, TASS--Late in December last year the Chinese side unilaterally and suddenly terminated the carriage of passengers and cargoes to and from Vietnam along an international railway line. This is another hostile act of Chinese ruling circles in the chain of anti-Vietnamese actions, seriously condemned by Vietnam, says a note from the SRV Foreign Ministry to the Chinese Embassy in the SRV.

Along with stopping train traffic, the Chinese side is constantly perpetrating provocations accompanied by bloodshed on the borderline stretch of the railway line. Simultaneously, Chinese ruling circles, the note underlines, are making slanderous fabrications addressed to Vietnam on this matter, presenting black as white, thereby seeking to cover up their criminal actions in the aforementioned region and also in other regions of the Vietnamese-Chinese border.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SRV, the note points out, resolutely exposes the flagrant hostile actions and designs of China's ruling circles aimed at creating difficulties for the Vietnamese people, encroaching on Vietnamese sovereignty and territorial integrity, threatening the SRV's security in the borderline regions.

The Chinese side must immediately stop these actions hostile to Vietnam, must respect the joint agreements on cooperation on the international railway, restore the normal functioning of the international railway line on the stretch between Vietnam and China.

The Chinese side, the document underlines, must bear the full responsibility for all the grave consequences of its unreasonable actions.

MEETING TO MARK LAO ARMY'S ANNIVERSARY HELD IN MOSCOW

LD210404 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Today is the 30th anniversary of the Lao People's Liberation Army. A meeting of representatives of the capital's public and servicemen of the Moscow garrisons has been held in Moscow to mark this outstanding date in the life of the young republic. Our correspondent (Yevgeniy Osporskiy) reports: The first large detachment of Lao patriots was formed on 20 January 1949. It was led by Kaysone Phomvihan, now general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and premier of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. The Lao People's liberation Army reckons its history from that date. Army General Ivan Grigoryevich Pavlovskiy, USSR deputy minister of defense, spoke to those gathered in the Red Banner Hall of the Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army. He said, in particular:

[Pavlovskiy--begin recording] The heroic struggle of the Lao people was part of a mighty national liberation movement of the peoples of the East. Soviet people have always followed with great sympathy the struggle of the fraternal Lao people and have given them constant active support and aid, which have been a considerable contribution to the victory of the Laotian people.

Today, guided by the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the CPSU and the Soviet Government are assisting in every way the strengthening of fraternal friendship and solidarity with the LPRP and LPDR, for the good of the peoples of our countries. [end recording]

Those taking part in the meeting listened with great attention to the speech by Sot Phetlasi, LPDR ambassador to the USSR. He told of the tasks being resolved today by the Lao people and their soldiers, and conveyed greetings and good wishes to the Soviet people.

CONGRESS, PROGRAM OF JAPANESE SOCIALIST PARTY REPORTED

LD201458 Moscow TASS in English 1228 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, January 20, TASS--The scheduled congress of the Socialist Party of Japan has closed here. The delegates to the congress discussed and adopted a programme for party activity for the coming year and mapped out measures for strengthening and broadening party ranks, the objectives of struggle for victory at the elections of new governor of Tokyo to be held in spring this year. A resolution was adopted demanding a careful investigation into cases of bribe-taking by Japanese Government officials from U.S. aircraft companies.

In their speeches at the congress the delegates strongly criticised the home policy of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, which is conducive to a deterioration of the living standards of the broad masses of the working people and enrichment of the big bourgeoisie. They pointed out that the most important objectives of the party at the present stage are organizing struggle for overcoming economic stagnation, against the policy of dismissals pursued by employers, against the growth of prices in the country and threats of a fresh outbreak of inflation.

The necessity was stressed of organizing mass actions against the course of the ruling circles for the country's re-militarization and strengthening military alliance with the USA, for cancelling the Japanese-American "Security Treaty" and dismantling all the U.S. military bases in Japan's territory.

The delegates demanded that the authorities respect the democratic rights of the people guaranteed by the constitution in force and renounce attempts at revising its anti-war provisions.

The programme for party activity approved by the congress outlines concrete measures in defence of the living standards of the people, including efforts for a successful holding of the traditional spring offensive of the working people as well as launching a struggle against the attempts of the reaction to impose special legislation on the country in the emergency of war.

DPRK PROTESTS S. KOREAN VIOLATIONS

LD201327 Moscow TASS in English 1209 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Pyongyang, January 20, TASS--At a meeting in Panmunjom of the secretaries of the military commission for armistice in Korea, the representative of the DPRK stated a resolute protest against gross violations of the armistice agreement by the South Korean side. He said that in 1978 South Korea had violated the agreement more than 23,000 times by shelling, in particular the northern part of the demilitarized zone, by bringing and deploying heavy weapons there, and erecting various military installations.

PRESS REPORTS PERSONNEL CHANGES IN UZBEKISTAN

Ferganskiy Obkom

LD220747 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 23 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Text] UZTAG--A Ferganskiy Obkom plenum was held yesterday to consider an organizational question. In connection with his retirement F. Sh. Shamsudinov was released from his duties as first secretary of Ferganskiy Obkom.

Kh. Umarov, who had been chairman of Ferganskiy Oblispolkom, was elected first secretary of Ferganskiy Obkom.

L.I. Grekov, second secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee, participated in the work of the plenum.

Andizhanskiy, Tashkentskiy Obkoms

LD220749 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 26 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "Obkom Plenums"]

[Text] An Andizhanskiy Obkom plenum was held 25 December to discuss the results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the tasks of the oblast's party organizations stemming from its decisions and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech. The report was delivered by Obkom Second Secretary A.P. Shendrik.

The plenum considered an organizational question. In connection with I.B. Usmankhodzhayev's election as chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium he was released from the duties of obkom first secretary. S.M. Mamarasulov, who was deputy chairman of the Uzbek Council of Ministers, was elected first secretary of Andizhanskiy Obkom.

The plenum participants considered and largely approved the oblast's draft economic and social development plan and local budget for 1979.

The plenum was addressed by L.I. Grekov, second secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee.

I.B. Usmankhodzhayev, chairman of the Uz k Supreme Soviet Presidium, participated in the work of the plenum.

A Tashkentskiy Obkom plenum was held 25 December. It discussed the oblast party organization's tasks in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum decisions and the instructions which Comrade L.I. Brezhnev gave in his speech at the plenum. The report was delivered by Obkom First Secretary M.M. Musakhanov.

The plenum participants also examined questions connected with further improving capital construction.

The plenum discussed an organizational question. In connection with a transfer to work on the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee apparatus, V.V. Okunskiy was released from his duties as obkom second secretary. V.A. Antonov, who was first deputy chairman of the Uzbek Gosplan, was elected second secretary of Tashkentskiy Obkom.

Uzbek CP Central Committee

LD191033 Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 20 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Unattributed "Information Report on Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The Uzbekistan CP Central Committee 11th plenum was held 19 December 1978.

The report on "The Results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the Republic Party Organizations' Tasks Arising Out of its Decisions and the Plenum Speech by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium" was delivered by Comrade Sh. R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee.

The plenum heard reports by Comrade K.A. Akhmedov, deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the republic Gosplan, "On the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Uzbek SSR in 1979" and by Comrade V. Muratkhodzhayev, Uzbek SSR minister of finance, "On the Uzbek SSR State Budget for 1979 and on the Implementation of the Uzbek SSR State Budget for 1977."

The following participated in the debates: M.M. Musakhanov, first secretary of Tashkentskiy Obkom; V.A. Khaydurov, first secretary of Syrdarinskiy Obkom; M. Kh. Kurbanov, Uzbek SSR minister of light industry; K.P. Dudin, second secretary of Taskhentskiy Gorkom; A.K. Karimov, first secretary of Surkhandarinskiy Obkom; Ye. Aytmuratov, chairman of the Karakalpakskaya ASSR Council of Ministers; A. Saliyev, cotton-growing team leader at the 20th Party Congress Sovkhoz in Bozskiy Rayon, Andizhanskaya Oblast; M. Ramazanov, director of the Almalyk mining and metallurgical combine; P. Kh. Kan, chief of the Dzhizakstepstroy Administration; and M. Dzhurayev, first secretary of Ishtykhanskiy Raykom.

The plenum listened to and discussed a report by Yu. R. Kurbanov, secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee, "The Uzbek Party Organization's Tasks To Further Develop Livestock-Raising in Light of the Demands of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum and the Instructions of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium."

The following participated in the discussion of this matter: K. Kamalov, first secretary of Karakalpakskiy Obkom; B.R. Rakhimov, first secretary of Samarkandskiy Obkom; R.G. Gaipov, first secretary of Kashkadarinskiy Obkom; M. Sherbutayev, first secretary of Kuvinskiy Raykom; I.S. Umarov, secretary of Syrdarinskiy Obkom; B.A. Piskunov, chief of Uzptitseprom; B. Amanov, director of the Kommunizm Sovkhoz in Sarnasiyskiy Rayon; M. Isakova, milkmaid at the 50 Let Uzbekskoy SSR Kolkhoz in Tashkentskiy Rayon; Sh. Donasov, director of the Avangard Karakul Sovkhoz in Tamdynskiy Rayon; A.U. Makhmudov, chairman of the Uzbek SSR State Committee for Fish Industry; G.D. Kan, director of the Ulugbek Interfarm Livestock-Raising Assocation in Samarkandskiy Rayon; and M. Kh. Khasanov, chairman of the Uzbek Union of Consumer Societies.

The plenum examined some organizational matters. The plenum released N.M. Matchanov from the post of member of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Bureau on health grounds at his own request.

The Uzbekistan CP Central Committee plenum elected I.B. Usmankhodzhayev member of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Bureau. The plenum elected A.A. Khodzhayev secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee.

In connection with his transfer to other work the plenum released G.M. Orlov from the post of chief of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department. The plenum appointed V.V. Okunskiy chief of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department.

In connection with his leaving the republic the plenum released E.B. Nordman from the post of candidate member of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Bureau. The plenum released N.R. Radzhabov from the post of chief of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee Construction and Municipal Services Department in connection with his transfer to other work.

Comrade Sh. R. Rashidov delivered the closing speech at the plenum. The Uzbekistan CP Central Committee adopted resolutions on the questions under discussion.

PRESS REPORTS PERSONNEL CHANGES IN KIRGIZIA

Kirgiz CP Central Committee

LD191019 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 22 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Unattributed "Information Report on Kirgiz CP Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A routine Kirgiz CP Central Committee plenum was held 21 December 1978.

The plenum discussed "The Results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the Republic Party Organization's Tasks Arising Out of Its Decisions and the Plenum Speech by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium."

The report was delivered by Comrade T.I. Usubaliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee.

The Kirgiz CP Central Committee plenum examined the draft plan for the economic and social development of the Kirgiz SSR in 1979. A report on this question was delivered by Comrade S. Begaliyev, deputy chairman of the Kirgiz SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the republic Gosplan.

The plenum also examined the Kirgiz SSR draft state budget for 1979 and the implementation of the Kirgiz SSR state budget for 1977. The report was delivered by Comrade A. Toktonaliyev, Kirgiz SSR minister of finance.

The following comrades participated in the debates on the questions under discussion: K.M. Moldobayev, first secretary of Frunze Gorkom; T. Bakasova, weaver at the Osh Kirgiz SSR 50th Anniversary Textile Combine; A.D. Duysheyev, first secretary of Issyk-Kulskiy Obkom; T. Kh. Koshoyev, first secretary of Oshskiy Obkom; K.S. Satarov, Kirgiz SSR minister of light industry; A.S. Savistakhunov, first secretary of Narynskiy Obkom; A.N. Kuznetsov, Kirgiz SSR minister of construction; Z. Nurmatova, first secretary of Dzhalal-Abad Gorkom; D. Sultanov, first secretary of Rybachye Gorkom; and M. Norgaziyev, first secretary of Fruzenskiy Raykom.

The Kirgiz CP Central Committee plenum adopted a resolution on the questions under discussion.

The Central Committee plenum sent greetings to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in connection with the conferment on him of the Order of Lenin and the third Hero of the Soviet Union Gold Star medal.

The Kirgiz CP Central Committee plenum examined some organizational questions.

The Central Committee plenum elected Comrade T. Kh. Koshoyev, first secretary of Oshskiy Obkom, and A.D. Duysheyev, first secretary of Issyk-Kulskiy Obkom, members of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee Bureau.

The Central Committee plenum released Comrade A.S. Suyumbayev from the post of member of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee Bureau.

The Central Committee plenum released Comrade D. Akmatov from the post of chief of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee Administrative Organs Department, in view of his departure on a study course, and appointed Comrade V.V. Rumyantsev chief of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee Administrative Organs Department.

The Central Committee plenum released Comrade R.S. Sadykov from the post of chief of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee Agriculture Department in connection with his election as chief scientific secretary at the Kirgiz SSR Academy of Sciences.

With this the plenum came to a close.

Supreme Soviet Session

LD191023 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 11 Jan 79 p 1 LD

[KIRTAG "Information Report on Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Session"]

[Excerpts] An extraordinary 11th session of the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet, ninth convocation, took place in the Hall of Sessions of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee and the Kirgiz Council of Ministers 10 January.

The deputies unanimously adopted the agenda for the session:

1. On the chairman of the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Presidium.

2. On the draft Kirgiz law on the Kirgiz Council of Ministers.

Deputy T.U. Usubaliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee, took the floor. On the instructions of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee, Comrade Usubaliyev put forward a proposal, supported by the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Soviet of Elders, on electing Deputy A. Duysheyev chairman of the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Deputy A. Duysheyev was unanimously elected chairman of the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Presidium. Comrade Duysheyev expressed his thanks for the trust placed in him and gave assurances that he will exert all his efforts to justify it.

The session moved on to examine the second item on the agenda. A report "On the Draft Kirgiz Law on the Kirgiz Council of Ministers" was delivered by Deputy S.I. Ibraimov, chairman of the Kirgiz Council of Ministers.

The deputies unaimously adopted the Kirgiz law on the Kirgiz Council of Ministers.

The session adopted a resolution on validating the Kirgiz law on the Kirgiz Council of Ministers.

With this the extraordinary 11th session of the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet, ninth convocation, finished work.

Issyk-Kulskiy Obkom

LD181321 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 13 Jan 79 p 3 LD

[Text] KIRTAG--An Issyk-Kulskiy party obkom plenum took place on 12 January.

The plenum examined an organizational question. In connection with A. Duysheyev's election as chairman of the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Presidium the plenum released him from his duties as first secretary and Bureau member of the obkom. The plenum elected A.M. Masaliyev first secretary and Bureau member of the obkom.

Taking part in the plenum's work were A. Duysheyev, chairman of the Kirgiz Supreme Soviet Presidium, and K.Ye. Fomichenko, second secretary of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee, who delivered speeches.

PRESS REPORTS PERSONNEL CHANGES IN KAZAKHSTAN

Supreme Soviet Session

LD191025 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Unattributed "Information Report on Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Session"]

[Excerpts] The ninth session of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet of the ninth convocation began work 19 December in Alma-Ata in the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Hall of Sessions.

The deputies and guests warmly greeted Comrade D.A. Kunayev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and first secretary of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee; Comrades I. Abdukarimov, K.M. Aukhadiyev, B.A. Ashimov, S.N. Imashev, A.I. Klimov, A.G. Korkin, O.S. Miroshkhin, S.A. Smirnov and Yu.N. Trofimov, members of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee Bureau, and Comrades S.M. Mukashev and V.T. Shevchenko, candidate members of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee Bureau.

Members of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, members of the republican government, P.G. Lushev, commander of the Red Banner Central Asian Military District, and A.I. Rachkov, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department, took their seats in the boxes.

The session was opened by Deputy S.N. Imashev, chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet released Deputy S.B. Niyazbekov from the post of chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in connection with his retirement.

Comrade A.A. Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, took the floor. On behalf of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Elders, Comrade D.A. Kunayev nominated Deputy I. Abdukarimov as chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The Supreme Soviet unanimously elected Deputy I. Abdukarimov chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

In connection with the appointment of Deputy E.Kh. Gukasov as deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers, the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet released him from the post of member of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Deputy S.T. Takezhanov, deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Kazakh SSR Gosplan, delivered the report on the state plan for the economic and social development of the Kazakh SSR in 1979 and on the course of the fulfillment of the state plan for the republic's economic and social development in 1978.

Deputy R.S. Bayseitov, Kazakh SSR minister of finance, delivered the report on the Kazakh SSR state budget for 1979 and on the implementation of the Kazakh SSR state budget for 1977.

The ninth session of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet continues.

Kzyl-Ordinskiy Obkom

LD220745 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 31 Dec 78 p 2 LD

[Text] KAZTAG--A Kzyl-Ordinskiy Obkom plenum has been held to discuss an organizational matter.

In connection with the election of I. Abdukarimov as chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the plenum released him from the post of first secretary and Bureau member of Kzyl-Ordinskiy Obkom.

The plenum elected T. Yesetov first secretary and Bureau member of Kzyl-Ordinskiy Obkom.

A.G.Korkin, second secretary of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, attended the plenum.

Prices Committee Official

LD171619 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jan 79 p 4 LD

[Text] UZTAG--The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has released Comrade I.A. Kushnarev from his duties as first deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR State Committee on Prices in connection with his transfer to other work.

Food Industry Minister

AU181115 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1513 GMT 17 Jan 79 AU

[Text] On 17 January the Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium appointed by decree (Yetegen Pomabayevich Nadanbayev) Kazakh minister of the food industry. The Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium relieved Yevgeniy Yerofeyevich Zaritskiy of the duties of Kazakh minister of food industry in connection with his transfer to another job.

PRESS REPORTS PERSONNEL CHANGES IN TADZHIKISTAN

Leninabadskiy Obkom

LD220833 Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 21 Dec 78 p 2 LD

[Text] TADZHIKTA--A Leninabadskiy Obkom plenum took place 18 December. It discussed the report of Obkom First Secretary R. Khodzhiyev "The Tasks of the Oblast Party Organization To Fulfill the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the Directions of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Put Forward in His Speech at the Plenum." The plenum adopted an appropriate resolution on the question discussed. The plenum examined organizational questions. M.A. Pochchayev, former Chkalovsk Gorkom first secretary, and B. Babayev, previously Matchinskiy Raykom first secretary, were elected Leninabadskiy Obkom secretaries.

Dushanbe Gorkom

LD220835 Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 22 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Text] TADZHIKTA--A Dushanbe Gorkom plenum took place 21 December. Discussion concerned the gorkom report and the tasks of the city party organization to fulfill the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) plenum and the directions of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The plenum also examined organizational questions. In connection with her election as secretary of the Tadzhikistan CP Central Committee, G.B. Bobosadykovaya was relieved of her duties as first secretary and Bureau member of Dushanbe Gorkom. Shakarimov Yuddash, who was previously chief of the Industry and Transport Department of the Tadzhikistan CP Central Committee, was elected first secretary and Bureau member of Dushanbe Gorkom. The following took part in the work of the gorkom plenum: D.B. Rasulov, first secretary of the Tadzhikistan CP Central Committee, and Yu.I. Polukarov, second secretary of the Tadzhikistan CP Central Committee.

PRESS REPORTS PERSONNEL CHANGES IN AZERBAIJAN

Kazakhskiy Raykom

LD220823 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 5 Jan 79 p 2 LD

[Text] AZERINFORM--A Kazakhskiy Raykom plenum was held the other day; it discussed the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee resolution "On Serious Shortcomings in the Work of the Kazakhskiy Raykom and its First Secretary, Comrade I.L. Abbasov." [paragraph continues]

The plenum participants were familiarized with the Central Committee resolution by Z.G. Abdullayev, chief of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee Agriculture Department.

In their speeches the plenum participants fully approved the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee resolution, by which Comrade Abbasov is removed from the post of first secretary of the raykom and given a severe reprimand, to be entered on his report card, and severely condemned the flagrant distortions he permitted in leadership. They gave a sharp assessment of serious shortcomings in the activity of the Kazakhskiy Raykom Bureau, its unprincipled attitude toward deviations from party norms in resolving cadre questions, and its tolerance toward instances of abuse of his official position by Comrade Abbasov.

The plenum unanimously approved the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee resolution.

For serious shortcomings in work, flagrant violations of the party principles of selecting and appointing cadres and for sponsoring unworthy persons, Comrade I. L. Abbasov was removed from the post of first secretary of the Kazakhskiy Raykom and expelled from the raykom bureau.

For serious shortcomings in work, an unprincipled attitude and liberalism, G. Orudzhev was released from his duties as secretary of the raykom.

F. Gasanov, former chairman of the rayon People's Control Committee, was expelled from the raykom Bureau, having been released from his duties by a resolution of the republic People's Control Committee.

A.Sh. Kiliyev was elected first secretary of Kazakhskiy Raykom and member of the Bureau.

PRESS REPORTS PERSONNEL CHANGES IN GEORGIA

Yugo-Osetinskiy Oblast, Kutaisi Gorkom

LD220732 [Editorial Report LD] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 28 December 1978 publishes on page 3 a number of reports on party committee plenums.

A 600-word unattributed report on an Abkhazskiy Obkom plenum held to discuss "the Oblast Party Organization's tasks to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the instructions set forth by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in his speech at the plenum" notes that Obkom First Secretary B.V. Adleyba delivered the report and that the plenum "largely approved" the drafts of the 1979 Abkhazskaya ASSR economic and social development plan and state budget.

A 600-word unattributed report on an Adzharskiy Obkom plenum held to discuss the same topic notes that Obkom First Secretary V.R. Papunidze delivered the report.

A 1,200-word GRUZINFORM report under the headline "In a Businesslike Atmosphere" provides an account of the proceedings of a Yugo-Osetinskaya Oblast party conference at which Obkom First Secretary F.S. Sanakoyev was the main speaker. The report states: "The first plenum of the newly elected Yugo-Osetinskiy Obkom has been held.

"F.S. Sanakoyev was elected first secretary of Yugo-Osetinskiy Obkom, G.K. Lordkipanidze was elected second secretary and I.V. Gabarayev was elected secretary."

An 800-word unattributed report under the headline "Meeting the Increased Demands" described a Kutaisi Gorkom conference at which Gorkom First Secretary N. Rukhadze delivered the report. It concludes:

"The first plenum of the newly elected Kutaisi Gorkom has been held.

"The plenum elected N.D. Rukhadze first secretary of Kutaisi Gorkom, V.A. Khazaradze second secretary and N.A. Kakauridze secretary."

Abkkhazskiy Obkom

LD220827 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 6 Jan 79 p 2 LD

[Text] Gruzinform--An Abkhazskiy Obkom plenum has been held to discuss an organizational matter.

In connection with his transfer to other work, the plenum released Comrade T.V. Lordkipanidze from the post of second secretary and Bureau member of Abkhazskiy Obkom.

The plenum elected Comrade V.I. Alavidze second secretary and Bureau member of Abkhazskiy Obkom.

Comrade G.V. Kolbin, second secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, attended the plenum.

Tbilisi Gorkom

LD191627 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 7 Jan 79 p 2 LD

[Text] Gruzinform--A Tbilisi Gorkom plenum has been held.

The plenum released G.D. Gabuniya from the post of secretary of Tbilisi Gorkom in connection with his transfer to other work.

The plenum elected B.D. Makharashvili secretary and Bureau member of Tbilisi Gorkom.

The plenum elected N.N. Nefedov member of Tbilisi Gorkom Bureau.

The plenum released B.F. Lobzhanidze and S.T. Rigvava from membership of the Tbilisi Gorkom Bureau.

The plenum released A.O. Movsesyan from the post of candidate member of Tbilisi Gorkom Bureau.

REASONS FOR KUZBASS MINERS' UNDERPRODUCTION EXAMINED

ID151607 [Editorial Report ID] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 5 January 1979 publishes on page 2, under the headline "The Difficult Path to Millions of Tons," a 2,100-word report from Kemerovskaya Oblast by PRAVDA correspondent A. Bogachuk noting that "the miners of the Kuzbass have fallen short of their targets by more than 1 million tons of coal" and examining the "reasons for this lag on the part of one of the sector's leading detachments." Bogachuk notes that in the past 10 years production in the Kuzbass has been increased "mainly through comprehensive mechanization and technical reequipping. This potential has to a considerable extent been exhausted, while no new mine or pit has been established." Bogachuk states that the USSR Ministry of Coal Industry and Gosplan "are primarily to blame" for these "planning miscalculations" which have resulted in "a disproportion between the rate of extraction and the increase in coal mining enterprise capacities." Although, he declares, "modernization is one of the most reliable ways of increasing production efficiency," the targets for modernizing enterprises "are not being met." Bogachuk goes on to state that "one reason for the miners' lag is the shortage of manpower" and notes that "the incidence of absenteeism and violations of labor discipline has increased sharply." However, he continues, "in the extremely difficult situation where 50 percent of mines are failing to cope with the plan, party committees are carrying out great organizational work to eliminate the lag." Bogachuk then describes the difficulties faced by the obkom coal industry department, stating that "the tremendous flood of information which is sometimes necessary only in order to compile another summary of information" is "obviously one of the reasons why the coal industry section does not always pose in timely and acute fashion the question of personal responsibility." He concludes, however, that "there can be no doubt that the basin's miners will succeed in overcoming the difficulties and will honorably fulfill the 10th 5-Year Plan targets."

TADZHIK OILMEN ACHIEVE 11 PERCENT INCREASE IN OIL OUTPUT

ID181055 Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 3 Jan 79 p 1 ID

[S. Safarov report: "From the Bowels of the Earth"]

[Text] The workers of the Tadzhikneft Production Association marked the third year of the 5-year plan with labor successes. The annual output sales program was fulfilled ahead of schedule and a considerable quantity of oil was extracted above the target.

The large increase in oil extraction--some 11 percent--is due to the implementation of the comprehensive plan for organizational and technical measures, the commissioning of new oil wells and the execution of work aimed at intensifying the flow of oil from the bowels of the earth. The most significant measures were undertaken at the promising Beshtentyak and Niyazbek deposits--the republic's main oil extraction base.

High indicators were achieved by the collectives of the Nefteabad drilling administration and geological-prospecting expedition which several months ago completed the targets of the first 3 years of the 5-year plan for sinking exploratory wells, and structure-testing boreholes. The workers of the No 1 oilfield have had good achievements; they are extracting oil and gas at the Beshtentyak, Shaambarbary and Komsomolskoye deposits.

FAILURE TO REDUCE UZBEK INCOMPLETE CONSTRUCTION WORK HIT

ID181015 [Editorial Report ID] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 4 January 1979 front-pages a 1,600-word article entitled "Construction in Uzbekistan," by A. Khodzhayev, secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee. The article states that "construction workers are making a big contribution to the development of the republic's economy. The assessment of construction workers' labor made at the party Central Committee November plenum by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, is fully applicable to Uzbekistan construction workers." Khodzhayev goes on to say that "more than R5 billion worth of fixed capital was commissioned in Uzbekistan in 1978" and "significant results have been achieved in the construction of housing, educational, scientific, cultural, health, municipal and consumer institutions." The article also says that construction work was "better organized than in previous years."

One criticism made in the article is that "there are still many reserves in capital construction. Construction and installation organizations are 'still not working smoothly' and the commissioning of projects has been uneven throughout the year. A whole series of ministries and departments failed to fulfill the annual plan for commissioning fixed capital, funds and resources are still being spread too thinly over an excessively large number of construction projects, and insufficient measures are being adopted to reduce uncompleted construction."

The article does state, however, that "most construction and installation collectives successfully fulfilled last year's plans and socialist pledges."

BREZHNEV SENDS GREETINGS TO NOVODZHAMBULSKIY WORKS

ID191505 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 19 Jan 79 ID

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent congratulations to all those involved in the construction of Novadzhambulskiy phosphorus works in Kazakhstan to mark the commissioning of the first stage of this new large-scale enterprise. The congratulations stress that fundamentally new technical solutions, the full mechanization and automation of production processes, and the high standard of construction and assembly work have enabled an enterprise to be created in accord with high technical and economic production standards. It is noteworthy that during the development and construction of this enterprise there was a fresh vivid manifestation of creative cooperation between the builders, fitters, chemical workers, machine builders and scientists of many republics of our homeland.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 19 JAN

LD200724 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0000 GMT on 19 January reports that in the Ukraine 97 percent of plows, cultivators and grain seed drills are ready for use. It adds that in Kazakhstan this year almost 250,000 tractors are to be used and over 180,000 of them are ready.

At 0900 GMT the radio adds that a new sovkhoz is being built in the Lake Balkhash area wastelands where a major rice growing zone is being set up. The farm's plantations will be linked up to the trunk canal from the Ili River in Kazakhstan. Over the past few years this wasteland area has become a noticeable rice growing area with more than 20,000 hectares of scorched land turned into fertile land by sovkhozes.

At 1100 GMT the radio reports that there has been heavy snow in Moldavia. The snow is 30 cm deep in the northern areas of Moldavia. Tractors have been taken out into the fields to retain the winter moisture. The radio adds that according to the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, snow retention has already been carried out on almost 36 million hectares in the country as a whole. Some 40 percent of the plan has been fulfilled. This work has been organized best of all in Severo-Kazakhstanskaya and Tselinogradskaya oblasts. Farms in the Siberian steppe areas are carrying out moisture retention at a fast rate. Volga Valley fields have a good snow cover, and there is a good snow cover in many areas of the Ukraine.

The radio also reports that "agricultural machine operators of Alma-Atinskaya Oblast are carrying out the preparation of machines for spring sowing faster than anyone else in Kazakhstan. Here 84 percent of the tractors have already been tested and are standing in machine yards. Farms in Dzhambulskaya Oblast are also close to Alma-Atinskaya Oblast's level of overhauled equipment. However, several thousand tractors of the DT-75 type have still not been overhauled at the republic's sovkhozes and kolkhozes. The Altay motor works is not keeping to the schedule for the supplies of crankshafts and other spare parts. The Yaroslavl motor works is also in arrears regarding Kazakhstan agricultural machines."

The radio says that the checking of the quality of grain crops, sugarbeet, cotton, grapes and other crops is taking place in Kirgizia. Recently many of these crops have received zonal grading, above all Przhevalskaya winter wheat which has given a record yield in the USSR--more than 120 quintals per hectare.

At 1700 GMT the radio reports that the Dalgiprozem Design Institute has located in the eastern BAM zone about 650,000 hectares suitable for agriculture. The land is in the valley of the taiga River Angun, experts think it can be used to grow vegetables, potatoes, grain crops and soya. The water meadows will be allocated to specialized livestock farms. In the eastern BAM zone, several sovkhozes have already been set up, and are supplying the builders with potatoes, vegetables and milk. This year, in the BAM zone, near Komsomolsk-na-Amure, construction of a large broiler poultry farm will be begun, and hothouse farms will be enlarged.

LAND RECLAMATION MINISTRY REVIEWS RESULTS, TASKS

LD171431 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 17 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A collegium of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources has examined the results of work carried out last year and the tasks for this year.

It was noted that in the third year of the 5-year period almost 1.4 million hectares of irrigated and drained land was handed over for use. A state commission fully accepted for use the first stage of the North Crimea Canal. A great amount of work was carried out to reconstruct the drainage system, to lay concrete in canals and prepare fields. Some 2.5 million square meters of housing was built in construction workers' settlements and on sovkhozes cultivating reclaimed land. A particularly large amount of work was carried out last year in the Non-Chernozem Zone of the RSFSR. The collegium noted successes by land improvement workers in Belorussia, the Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

For the country as a whole, however, the plan for commissioning irrigated and drained land was not fulfilled. The opening up of virgin lands in the Non-Chernozem Zone did not take place at a sufficiently fast rate.

Great tasks lie ahead this year. The construction of land improvement systems is now in progress in all the union republics, with a particularly great amount of this work going on in such major areas of the Russian Federation as the Volga Valley and the Northern Caucasus. The collegium examined measures to improve the efficiency of capital investments. Material and labor resources are being concentrated on the major construction projects to be commissioned during this 5-year period. Particular attention was paid to bridging the gap between the commissioning of land improvement systems and their agricultural assimilation. The creation of a production basis for land improvement construction is being accelerated and new reinforced concrete goods plants and other enterprises are being built.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE REPORTS ON SEED PREPARATION

LD101839 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 10 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Getting ready for the spring, preparation of seeds for spring sowing is proceeding at a high rate in kolkhozes and sovkhozes. As the USSR Ministry of Agriculture reported, the seeds are in mainly first class in the Ukraine and Moldavia. Preparations are going particularly well in Odesskaya and Nikolayevskaya oblasts. Although the necessary quantity of spring crop seeds have been fully stocked as a whole in the country, a considerable amount of work remains to be done to bring seeds up to high conditions in most oblasts of the Urals, the RSFSR Non-Chernozem Zone and the Baltic republics. Pelleting works in the North Caucasus have now begun sending corn seeds to the central, northern and eastern oblasts of the RSFSR. Kirgiz corn growers are also preparing seeds of excellent quality.